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FLOWERS

FOR THE

HARDY
GARDEN

FRANK M. THOMAS

TWIN-LARCHES NURSERY

WEST CHESTER, PA.

Twin - Larches Nursery

Is located near the little village of Rocky Hill, about five miles east of West Chester and the same distance south of Malvern, Pa.

Anyone who is interested in hardy plants is always welcome, and prospective purchasers will find it very satisfactory to make their choice from blooming plants in the field.

Peonies, irises and oriental poppies are generally at their best the first week, delphiniums the last week in June; the hardy phlox is in full bloom the last of July.



The beauty of the flower border in late afternoon

INTRODUCTION

NOWADAYS, when catalogs are appearing so thick and fast that amateurs are bewildered by their number and variety, one is almost constrained to apologize for inflicting another on the long-suffering gardening public, unless it has some specially attempted distinctiveness or value. There is no doubt but that catalogs have been wonderfully improved of late. Yet, only a few years ago, when I was an amateur myself, I was often enough irritated at illustrations that did not illustrate, descriptions that did not describe, and a general air of slipshod perfunctoriness in the way all the information was presented. So now that I am about to issue a catalog of my own, the remembrance of my troubles as an amateur has been an additional incentive in my attempt to produce something a little nearer the ideal; something that would be not only a price-list, but, to a small extent at least, a dependable guide and help for beginners in flower-gardening; something treating not only of the characteristics of the various flowers, but also of their adaptabilities along the lines of modern decorative and artistic gardening. To put all this in a form that is interesting and readable, and yet free from sentimental exaggeration is, I know, no easy undertaking, and I shall consider myself fortunate indeed if my readers think I have steered a fairly safe course between the usual cut-and-dried catalog patter and what Mrs. Mabel Osgood Wright has so aptly termed "garden goozle."

My list of hardy plants is a comparatively small one, which I expect to increase year by year. As it stands, however, I can vouch for the genuine worth of every plant contained in it, and it is my purpose never to include a perennial that is for some reason undesirable or even mediocre, and, in particular, to avoid listing a great number of very similar varieties of one plant.

All the stock offered in this catalog has been grown by me personally, and whenever possible I will send out strong, field-grown plants, as I have found that these give far more satisfactory results than pot-grown stock, if planted when dormant in early fall or spring.

I believe that America is on the verge of a great general awakening in matters pertaining to flowers and flower-gardening, and if I can share in this movement to some small extent, if I can inspire some few persons with an interest and enthusiasm for the most fascinating of pastimes and one of the noblest of arts, then I shall feel that this book has more than accomplished its mission.

TWIN-LARCHES NURSERY

March, 1916

FRANK M. THOMAS

West Chester, Pa.

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A Classification of Color-Terms

Probably the worst defect in the modern catalog is the hit-or-miss way in which color-terms are used in describing the various flowers. Writers are continually reminding us what a handicap this is on any sort of progress in artistic gardening, yet very little effort has been made to remedy this unfortunate state of affairs, except by a firm here and there which has adopted the color-chart system of color nomenclature. No doubt this would be the ideal way, providing such a chart were cheap and readily available, or else that the names indicating the different gradations of color conveyed some definite meaning in themselves. As it happens, however, the chart is far from cheap, and as for the color-terms, "light amparo purple, class 9" or "Boryta yellow, class 4" mean less than nothing to the average reader. Therefore, in the hope that it may be of some little assistance in clearing up matters, I give the following classification of colors, which has been drawn up with the idea of being a key to the terms used in the catalog, since it seems to me that what a large part of the public needs is not only accurate descriptions, but a drilling in just what these accurate descriptions should connote, in terms of well-known flowers. Even though my efforts should prove to be only a makeshift, I think they will be an improvement on the present system,—or lack of it,—which classifies violet and purple as blue, dignifies a frankly malignant magenta with the title of "beautiful rosy crimson," and uses or misuses the terms mauve, lilac, lavender, and purple in the most indiscriminate and innocent manner. I have seen the term *carmine* applied to anything from a pure scarlet to a raw amaranth, and as for crimson, it is a still more indefinite term.

Taking the three primary colors, blue, red, and yellow (green being of course, left out), I shall begin with blue. True **Blue** is a pure, intense color, entirely free from any tinge of either green or red. It is well exemplified in the flowers of the cornflower or bachelor's button (*Centaurea cyanus*), of the forget-me-not and of the *Delphinium formosum*. Passing from blue to red, we come first to **Violet-blue**, which is persistently confused with true blue. Violet-blue can be seen in *Veronica longifolia subsessilis*, and in the Siberian iris (*Orientalis*). Violet itself is simply the color of greenhouse violets. One step from violet brings us midway between blue and red, and right here should be placed the shades called purple,—a word that has been used with the most incredible looseness.

Pure **Purple** is a very rich shade, and is seen at its best in the flowers of the purple clematis (*C. Jackmanii*), and those of the *Aster Novæ-Angliæ*.

The group of shades from purple to red are the most confused and confusing of all. Purples of a reddish tone merge into **Claret** or wine-color (example—*Pblox, Von Hochberg*), and from thence to **Amaranth** (*Pblox, Rosenberg*, and many zinnias), which in its lighter tones gives the many offensive Magenta shades that are the *betes noirs* of all flower-gardeners. From amaranth we pass to deep **Rose-red** and **Cerise**, the reds with the least amount of blue in them (examples—*Salvia Gregii* and *Pblox, Sigrid Arnoldson*), and so to **Pure Red** or **Crimson**, which is a very rare shade, seen in a few roses, like Hadley, and in the newly opened buds of the old-fashioned Peony (*Pæonia officinalis*).

Far more common is **Scarlet**, the most brilliant and intense of the red shades, and which marks the first step in the progression toward yellow. A good example is the familiar scarlet sage. Approaching still nearer yellow, we get **Vermilion**, **Brick-red**, **Orange-scarlet** and copper shades and finally true orange. Brick-red and orange-scarlet are common in the oriental poppy. Pure **Orange** is a rare color of great depth and richness, and can be seen in the Asiatic trolius, and the new African daisy. **Orange-yellow** is a familiar color in many nasturtiums, marigolds, and sunflowers, while **Pure Yellow** is shown by the *Coreopsis lanceolata* and by the *Rudbeckia, Golden Glow*.

Passing from yellow to green, we have, first, **Lemon-yellow**, a very useful shade, and **Sulphur-yellow**, of a more distinct greenish tinge. Lemon lilies (*Hemerocallis flava*) and *Aquilegia chrysantha* are lemon-yellow. Sulphur-yellow is seldom seen, except in the centers of certain peonies, and the trumpets of some narcissi. The term "golden" is, of course, largely figurative, but has apparently come to mean a yellow of deep, brilliant tone.

It should be distinctly kept in mind that the depth, that is, the relative darkness or lightness of a shade, has nothing to do with its place in the spectrum scale. Thus a very deep purple and a very pale lavender may stand in the same relation to blue and red. And so with the pinks, which are simply lighter tones of red that have been honored with distinct names.

These softer tones may be grouped together roughly to form a supplementary series, beginning with the paler shades of blue, which are mostly nameless, and passing to the **Lavender-blues** (light violet-blues), to the **Lavenders** (light purples and violets) and so, imperceptibly, to the **Lilacs** which include the paler purples of reddish tone. **Lavender** can be seen in the flower of that name and in most hardy asters; **Lavender-blue** in the *Aquilegia cærulea* and the periwinkle (*vinca*); while **Lilac** can be typified by that familiar flowering shrub. "Lilac and mauve," says Miss Jekyll, "cover the same ground,"—hence the absurdity of such expressions as "lilac-mauve." Lilac passes to **Lilac-pink** (or mauve-pink) and finally to **Rose-pink**. These shades are more desirable in their paler tones (example *Anemone, Queen Charlotte*, and *Pblox, Mme. Paul Dutrie*) than in their deeper ones, which often present many raw aniline shades such as one sometimes sees in peonies, and in annual asters. From these cooler pinks we gradually merge into **Pure Pink**, which, of course, is derived from pure red, and has no hint of either yellow or blue.

Few flowers are of an altogether pure pink; newly opened Dorothy Perkins roses are fairly good examples. **Warm Pinks**, like *Pblox, Elizabeth Campbell*, begin to show the influence of the approaching yellow, which grows more pronounced in the **Salmon-pinks** like the poppy, Mrs. Perry, and sweet william, Newport Pink, and still more so in brilliant **Orange-pinks** such as the familiar gladiolus, Mrs. Frances King. Finally we come to the lighter shades of pure orange and yellow that have not been given separate names.

Some other terms not used above may perhaps require explanation. "**Old-rose**" is a deep lilac-pink, of soft, dull tone,—a tapestry pink. **Maroon** is a very deep red of slightly purplish tone, with perhaps also a slight admixture of brown. Bronze is, I think, self-explanatory. In referring to the color of the foliage, glaucous means a green that is of a bluish and often, at the same time, of a grayish tone. **Shell** and **Flesh** serve to indicate the palest tones of pure and warm pink respectively.

In planting for color effect, the shades of red from scarlet to orange will be found the hardest to handle; if these are eliminated it will be comparatively smooth sailing. Reds and pinks are better used in harmony or sequence rather than in contrasts, while the opposite is true of blue, which perhaps gives the best effect in a setting of white or pale yellow (not bright yellow) or combined with certain lavenders and violets. Plenty of white is always indispensable. Of course these are the merest hints; anyone interested in this will do well to consult "The Well Considered Garden," by Mrs. Frances King (perhaps the most useful and suggestive gardening book that has been published in America) as well as Miss Jekyll's classic, "Color Schemes for the Flower-Garden."

PREPARATION OF SOIL

I cannot too strongly advise a thorough preparation of the ground before the plants are set out. Everyone who can afford it should remove the soil to a depth of two feet, fill in the first foot with well-rotted manure and the remaining space with good loam well mixed with one-fourth manure. Or fill the whole depth with the top soil, mixed with one-third rotted manure. Prepared in this way the borders will need no extra fertilizer for several years, and the depth of mellow soil will encourage the plants to send out very deep roots, thus giving them a reserve of strength and moisture during the long and trying dry spells so apt to occur during our summers. I do not, of course, mean that one can have no success with perennials without doing all this,—on the contrary, many flowers will make a brave showing in ground that has received no more than a thorough spading up—nevertheless, it is false economy to stint one's garden in this matter; the improvement from extra preparation will be quite out of proportion to the labor and expense involved.

Late September and early October are the best times to set out the majority of perennials. Planted then, they will make some root-growth before winter and be ready to start growing at the first sign of warm weather. In the spring, early planting is advisable, if one wishes a good effect the first year.

Wait until the ground freezes fairly hard before protecting the garden for the winter with three or four inches of loose stable litter. It should be distinctly understood that the purpose of this mulch is not to keep the plants from freezing but *to keep them frozen*. A steady cold will injure very few plants; it is the alternate freezing and thawing of our rainy changeable winters that plays havoc with them, especially if they are newly set out or inclined to be tender.

PLANNING THE HARDY GARDEN

To venture any directions or suggestions concerning the general design or arrangement of the hardy garden would be far outside the scope of this catalog. The most useful books on these subjects for the prospective flower-gardener are: "The American Flower Garden," by Neltje Blanchan, \$1.50; "Continuous Bloom in America," by Louise Shelton, \$2; "The Well Considered Garden," by Mrs. Frances King, \$2; and, finally, "Color Schemes for the Flower Garden," by Gertrude Jekyll, \$3.75. Aside from the more purely decorative and artistic side, there is no more concise and satisfactory book than "A Woman's Hardy Garden," by Helena Rutherford Ely, \$1.75, for learning how to prepare for and take care of all the usual hardy perennials. And every ambitious gardener who can afford it should own a copy of the "English Flower Garden" (\$6), if only for its invaluable and wonderfully comprehensive reference list of garden plants. For the convenience of my customers I have arranged with the publishers that these books may be ordered of me, if so desired.



Iris fringing the shrubbery border



The Hardy Garden

Back in 1883, when William Robinson published his epoch-making book, "The English Flower Garden," he sounded the death-knell of the tender bedding-plant craze which had almost universally displaced the nobler gardens of perennials and, as Mr. Wilhelm Miller has said, turned all England into one gigantic crazy-quilt. Today, thanks to Mr. Robinson and his disciples, the art of hardy gardening has been restored to its own, and as practised by such consummate artists as Miss Gertrude Jekyll and others, it has reached a degree of perfection that must long serve as a model for other countries.

Here in America the history of hardy perennials has no such well-defined chapters. In colonial times we possessed many fine hardy gardens; since then we have been slower than the English, both to take up and to discard the bedding-plant craze; even yet, it lingers with us to an appalling extent, as anyone can testify who has seen the gaudy expanses of coleus and alternantheras in our public parks. Nevertheless, the revival of interest in hardy plants has been steady. We already have some wonderfully artistic gardens, and, under the influence of our admirable garden-clubs, our gardening publications and our progressive nurserymen and enthusiastic amateurs, there seems to be no reason why a love for flowers should not become as universal here as it is abroad.



Aconitum

Aconitum • Monkshood

How comparatively few people know the Monkshood! Show a well-grown plant to the average flower-lover, and he will be sure to exclaim with surprise and delight at the quaint, helmet-shaped blossoms, rich colors, glossy leaves, and handsome, robust growth. Yet the Aconitum is one of the oldest of garden plants, famed both for the beauty of its flowers and the deadly poison of its roots. One is quite safe in handling these latter, however; they are dangerous only if actually eaten. It has often been urged that Monkshoods love shade, but though they will thrive in partial shade, I cannot see that they are any the better for it, and if the shade is at all dense, the stems become weak and spindling. It is of more importance to avoid dry, baked ground, which will be sure to stunt them. Clumps may be left undivided for four or five years, and look all the better for it.

Spark's Variety. Grows from 4 to 5 feet tall, with finely divided, delphinium-like foliage and graceful, branching spikes of deep violet flowers. The best of the dark-colored varieties, and a big improvement over the old Napellus. Late June and July. Space 1 ft. Combines well with the lighter-colored delphiniums.

Wilsonii. A stiffer, more erect grower, with coarse leathery leaves and very large, fully inflated flowers of the richest lavender—a shade that for cool purity of tone would be hard to match, outside of some of the Pallida irises. Blooming in early October, this is really an invaluable plant. Hardy, robust grower, 5 to 6 feet tall; flowers last exceptionally long, both in the garden and when cut. It makes a delightful picture planted behind a mass of pink or white Japanese anemones. Should be staked. Space 15 in. 25 cts. each.

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Achillea · Milfoil or Yarrow

Ptarmica, The Pearl. This and the following variety have little in common except their unusually long blooming period. The Pearl is one of the best perennials of medium height for furnishing a mass of white in the garden. By means of underground stems, it spreads with astonishing quickness, and for this reason is often used for carpeting graves. Large spaces are soon covered by its narrow, drooping, light green leaves and close branching heads of tiny, tufted, pure white flowers. Fine for cutting. Blooms from June to September. Space 1 ft.

Eupatorium, Parker's Variety. This is a plant of decided distinction of form; its deeply cut leaves, stiff, upright stems, and broad flat heads of brilliant yellow flowers have a decorative value that is very considerable where an incisive note of form and color is needed. The curiously stiff, dry blossoms stay fresh and bright for fully two months, and new spikes generally keep up the succession of bloom well into the fall. Blooms from early July on. 3 ft.; space 18 in.

Alyssum

Saxatile compactum. The hardy Alyssum, together with the arabis, iberis, and some others, is a carpeting plant whose full value is only just beginning to be realized. Its thick mats of downy, gray-green leaves, clouded over in early April with innumerable branching clusters of tiny golden flowers, should be a feature of every garden. Plant it as an edging to walks or borders, both in sun and shade; let it heap itself around the stems of tall growing perennials, or use it as a carpet through which Holland bulbs can spring up, and so have a setting for their bloom and a covering for their yellowing leaves. Early crocuses may peep through, or May-flowering tulips, or even Speciosum lilies to blossom in August and September. *Alyssum saxatile* will flourish in the rock-garden or on rocky slopes, where it is charming combined with blue-eyed forget-me-nots or white arabis. 6 to 10 in.; space 1 ft.

Anchusa Italica · Alkanet

Now that the Anchusa has so definitely "arrived," I sometimes wonder what we ever did for early blue flowers before we had its incomparable shades. Certainly, next to the delphinium, it is by far the best hardy plant of its color—and what flower-gardener ever had too many blue flowers? A large bed filled solid with Anchusas makes a splendid effect. After the flower-spikes have been cut down, the spaces between the plants can be filled with annuals, such as snapdragons or zinnias, to give a supply of bloom for the remainder of the summer. In the mixed border, Anchusas are of course invaluable. Alternating them with later-developing plants, such as asters, is an effective means of avoiding a very large flat space after they have finished blooming. I should like to warn every purchaser not to count on their plants living more than two seasons for after that the huge, fleshy crowns almost invariably split up and rot from dampness during the winter. As an aid in lengthening their lifetime, I should advise planting them in rather poor soil, where they will not make so rank a growth. Encouraging the formation of new crowns by cutting the stems to the ground im-



Tufted white blooms of *Achillea Ptarmica*, The Pearl

mediately after flowering is another aid, and, probably, if the crowns were covered with sand during the winter, they would stand less chance of rotting; but all these expedients are something of a gamble at best. In any case, if your old plant has given up the ghost, do not trust to any of the generally innumerable young seedlings to carry on the succession—they will invariably be inferior. Only plants raised from root-cuttings come true. Anchusas bloom from the middle of May to the end of June. Space 2 ft.

Dropmore Variety. When out of bloom this is a huge, rosette-like cluster of long, pointed leaves, sage-green, succulent and hairy; when in bloom, a pyramidal branching mass of flowers, 4½ feet tall. Like its distant relative, the forget-me-not, the buds and newly opened flowers are pale pink, but they change almost immediately to a pure, rich blue, about ½ inch across.

Opal. Is exactly the same in habit, but with flowers considerably lighter—a lustrous, light turquoise; perhaps even more charming.

Perry's Variety. Is a much deeper blue than either of the other two sorts, but the flowers are smaller, and the plant more awkward and sprawling in habit.

Anemone Japonica

Japanese Windflower

No perennial is more decorative and beautiful than the Japanese Windflower when well grown, and few are more disappointing when starved and stunted. It is one of those irritating plants that, though really not difficult, is nevertheless distinctly capricious with the average flower-gardener. No one

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A very effective planting of Japanese Anemone

Anemone Japonica, continued

need bother about growing it in shade, as so often advised,—a rich, mellow soil is far more important. Water liberally in dry spells, keep the roots cool with a mulch of leaf-mold, well-rotted manure, lawn grass, or even frequent surface stirrings, so that the plants may grow on through the summer with no check—once they start to sulk, an insignificant display of flowers will be the result. But, at its best, one plant should give a hundred or more blooms, and surely their faultless form and exquisite cool colors should be ample reward for any extra trouble. The leaves are large, deeply incised, of a deep shining green, and the blossoms are shaped like single roses, on long, smooth stems that make them admirable for cutting. Japanese Anemones are not among the hardiest of perennials, and should always be given some winter protection. The larger the plant, of course, the less chance it has of winter-killing. In the border, Japanese Anemones are always more effective in fairly large masses, preferably against a dark background. From September till late October. Height from 2 to 4 ft.; space 1 ft.

Queen Charlotte. Cool, silvery pink, of a satiny sheen, with a cluster of bright yellow stamens in the center. One of the best pinks of its tone among hardy plants.

Alice. Deeper than Queen Charlotte, and of a more purplish tone. Petals sometimes recurved.

Kriemhilde. Silvery pink, stained deeper at the tips; petals narrower and flower more nearly double than the other kinds. Distinct.

Geante des Blanches. Pure white with deep yellow stamens; very large petals. A vase of these white-and-gold beauties is quite beyond praise.

All Japanese Anemones, 25 cts. each, \$2.50 per doz.

Aquilegia · Columbine

Grace of habit and delicacy of texture and color in flowers seldom go hand in hand with hardiness and general adaptability; therefore the lovely Columbines are twice fortunate, for they can boast every one of these qualities, and to a high degree at that. Those who have seen only the common *Vulgaris*, with its rather coarse leaves and dumpy, short-spurred flowers can hardly appreciate the gap that separates them from the graceful, long-spurred varieties of today, both species and hybrids. No flowers, not even greenhouse-grown orchids, can rival the *Aquilegias* in delicacy of structure; the wide, flaring petals, framing the openings of the five cornucopia-like spurs tapering to delicate points, give it a uniquely airy appearance, unlike any other flower. And the whole plant is perfect in outline, from its finely cut, fern-like leaves to the big clusters of blooms, poised so lightly at the ends of the smooth, upright stems. Needless to say they are charming for cutting, and they last surprisingly well in water. Most of the long-spurred sorts have a delicate, honey-like fragrance.

With the exception of *Cerulea*, Columbines are very easily grown, and flourish and bloom in almost any sort of soil. A couple of seasons ago I planted some *Aquilegia chrysantha* along a shady north wall, hardly expecting they would do more than barely keep alive, but to my surprise, they grew and bloomed to perfection, although without a single ray of direct sunlight from morning to night. No doubt many of the long-spurred hybrids would do equally well in such a situation.

If the underbrush is not too thick, Columbines can be easily naturalized in woods, among rocks, or along shaded paths, where most kinds seed themselves freely. Massed with ferns along the foot of a wall, they give a very beautiful effect. Altogether they are one of the indispensable perennials.

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Masses of airily poised Columbines

Aquilegia, continued

Cærulea. Up in the higher levels of the Rockies, where this Columbine grows wild, the flowers are a pure sky-blue. Here in the East, in our lower altitudes, they are a soft lavender-blue, with white centers, which I am sure is equally charming. The individual blooms are particularly large and widely expanded, perhaps the finest of the genus, but unfortunately the plants are not so robust as most of the other sorts. Owing, no doubt, to their semi-alpine nature, they are sometimes short-lived, especially in changeable, rainy winters, while, on the other hand, they quickly show the effects of a long drought. They are charming grouped around pale yellow irises like *Flavescens*, or lavender ones like *Pallida Dalmatica*, which they very nearly approach in tone. Plant in well-drained soil. 12 to 18 in.; space 8 in.

Chrysantha. Another western species, and a very distinct one, as it blooms much later than any other. Beginning in June, it lasts fully two months, if seed-pods are not allowed to form. The flowers are a soft lemon-yellow, with very long spurs, and the plant is a vigorous grower, often 4 feet high. Nothing could be more exquisite than a group of *Aquilegia chrysantha*, set in among tall ferns, with a drift of pale blue forget-me-nots at its feet. Or combine it with some of the *Thalictrums*. Space 1 ft.

Canadensis. This is a delightful and very familiar wild flower all through the eastern states, and everyone who has a bit of fairly dry woodland can easily enjoy its dainty little scarlet-and-yellow blossoms. They make beautiful pictures scattered among rocks, or combined with our native maidenhair fern (*Adiantum pedatum*), or they can be readily grown in the border. Blooms in May. 12 to 18 in.; space 8 in.

Long-spurred Hybrids. Cærulea, Chrysantha, and other species have been the parents of this strain, which has been developed so that it presents almost every imaginable variation in delicate colors. Few or none will be found alike, but the colors are of such pure, pastel-like tones that I have never seen them clash. There are gauzy lavenders, creams, and pale blues, shell-pinks, buffs, and faint scarlets, with here and there a plant of deeper purple or red. A small percentage will have blooms with short spurs. By constant selection, I hope to improve the quality of this strain with every season. Very beautiful in large masses. 25 cts. each.

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Aquilegia chrysantha



The beautiful and bardy Astilbe

Arabis · Rock Cress

One of the best of dwarf, very early-flowering perennials. It has been rather extensively used for carpeting beds of spring-blooming bulbs, but there is no reason why this practice should not be extended so as to apply to late-flowering ones as well; lilies, for instance, will do all the better for a mat of Rock Cress shading their roots. We Americans have never attempted to realize the possibilities of this style of double planting, which not only gives two blooming periods to the same space of border, but avoids the stiff effect, given by so many bulbs when planted by themselves. A gently sloping, rocky bank can be turned into a delightful spring garden by being planted with a few suitable shrubs and dwarf cedars and carpeted with arabis, alyssum, iberis, vinca, with many colonies of bulbs, from crocuses and scillas, to narcissi and May-flowering tulips.

Alpina, the best variety, has downy, gray-green leaves, much like alyssum, but darker, and in early April is covered with sheets of small, star-shaped blossoms, snowy white and very fragrant. 8 to 12 in.; space 1 ft.

Artemisia

Lactiflora. New. A strikingly distinct plant, and the only one of its genus with desirable flowers. It is an easy, robust grower, reaching a height of 5 feet, and both the fresh green, deeply cut foliage and the huge heads of innumerable tiny cream-white flowers are very attractive. Its habit somewhat resembles the tall goldenrod, and its blossoms shortly before that plant, through most of August and September. It is very effective massed in the shrubbery border, and still more so planted in front of evergreens. In the garden it can be combined with hardy asters, although the blooming season of the two plants does not overlap quite accurately. But no matter how used, its masses of foamy white are very welcome at their season, especially as the flowers have a pleasant aromatic fragrance. Space 18 in. 25 cts. each, \$2.50 per doz.

Astilbe · Spiræa

Most people are familiar with the florist's Spiræas that are forced into bloom at Easter, but few know that they are excellent garden plants, and perfectly hardy. Though they will grow in almost any situ-

ation, a rich, moist soil will show them at their best, and they may be planted in nooks at the edges of ponds, or along the banks of streams. In such places, the bronzy green, fern-like leaves grow to a luxuriant size, and the plants send up many great feathery spikes of bloom. They will thrive in partial shade, and are fine for cutting.

Queen Alexandra. This is the popular forcing Spirea, and a very pretty plant, with graceful spikes of pale rose-pink flowers. Late June and July. 18 in.; space 1 ft.

Salmon Queen. Perhaps the best of the new Arendsii hybrids. Of splendid habit, taller than Queen Alexandra, with large fleecy plumes, held well above the foliage. Color a charming shade of pale salmon-pink. 2½ ft.; space 18 in. 30 cts. each, \$3.50 per doz.

Asclepias · Butterfly Weed

Tuberosa (Butterfly Weed). Every American flower-gardener who is unfamiliar with this gorgeous wild flower should feel heartily ashamed of himself. I wish every such person could be transported, in July, to northern Indiana, where the Butterfly Weed grows at its loveliest. There, in the rich, black loam, the roots penetrate to a surprising depth, and the vigorous stems raise to a height of 4 and even 5 feet, their huge panicles of glowing orange blossoms. These flowers are sometimes cut from the wild plants and shipped to Chicago, where admiring visitors no doubt mistake them for rare greenhouse exotics.

Orange, much more than blue, is a rare color in hardy plants, and in the *Asclepias tuberosa*, next to the trollius, it is shown at its purest. The clusters of bloom are flatter and more branching than those of the common pink milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*), but the individual flowers are of the same delicate and curious shape; and they are followed by the same long, pointed seed-pods, filled with masses of fleecy thistledown-like seeds. Provided it has full sun, the Butterfly Weed will grow in almost any soil or situation. It rather resents moving, so is better left undivided for several years. Perhaps it is seen at its very best naturalized along the edges of woods, or shrubbery, where its vivid color can blaze out with no danger of "killing" more delicately hued neighbors. July and August. 1½ to 2½ ft.; space 18 in.

Hardy Asters

Michælmās Daisies

After persistent propaganda on the part of a few prominent flower-gardeners and progressive nurserymen, this most distinctive of our native plants seems to be started on the road to popularity at last. To be sure, it had to cross the ocean first, and be hybridized and developed for years by European growers, and then be brought back and practically re-introduced to its original country, but such is the time-honored method of appreciating our choice native plants.

Ruskin wrote that the only flower masses effective at a distance are those of a purplish blue tone. No doubt he was thinking of the English heather; but just as striking an illustration of his statement can be seen in the beauty given our eastern American landscape by the various species of wild Asters. Browning upland fields, clusters of young cedars, rocks and reddening brambles, swaying colonies of tall goldenrod, and, most distinctive note of all, clouds and drifts of cool lavender Asters;—is not most of the spirit of our eastern fall embodied by these? And anyone who has the smallest bit of woodland, thicket, or scrubby waste land can capture some of this spirit by planting it with Asters. Certainly no plants are easier to establish, and they increase so rapidly that one could do a deal of naturalizing, even with the overflow from the flower-borders.

Lavender clashes with so few colors that it can be used in the garden in larger masses than any other. One seldom has too much of it; that the English realize this is shown by their fondness for Aster, or, as they call them, "Michælmās Daisy" gardens—secluded sections of the border, generally backed by evergreens, or dense shrubbery, and given over entirely to these delightful flowers. Why should we not do this here? Surely there are many flower-lovers who would be willing to devote the small amount of time and trouble necessary for the enjoyment of such a display of exquisite cool color. Anyone with a degree of taste and skill could get splendid results by combining the many different shades and grouping the various types of growth.

Except the dwarf Amellus sorts and the Novæ-Angliæ section, which are self-supporting, Asters should be staked. But don't bunch all the stalks together at right angles to the ground; one of the charms of the Aster is its arching stems and the billowy amplitude of its flower-masses. Try to strike a mean between stiffness and sprawliness; the English manage it by using a many-branched piece of brush to support the stalks. Asters are rank growers and still ranker feeders, and though in their wild state they can remain undivided for some time, for the garden I would advise an annual division and replanting in newly fertilized soil if the highest development is wanted. At any rate, never let them stay undivided more than two years.

Almost any delicately colored flowers combine well with Asters. *Salvia azurea* and various early-flowering chrysanthemums in shell-pink and pale yellow are good suggestions. The deeper purple sorts combine effectively with deep yellow helianthi and rudbeckias. And no one who grows Asters should do without their first cousins, the boltonias; no white Aster is equal to *Boltonia asteroides*. Charming

Hardy Asters, continued

harmonies in soft colors can be made by planting Asters back of annuals like heliotrope, ageratum and lavender verberna and larkspur.

Acris. Blooms in July and August. About 1 foot tall, with broad heads of small, starry, lavender flowers, that give a good effect in masses. An excellent edging plant.

Feltham Blue. One of the best of the taller, Novi-Belgii varieties. Dark stems, widely branched, and graceful broad panicles of medium-sized, single, slightly incurving flowers, of a deep lavender. Late August to Late September. 4 to 5 ft. 25 cts. each.

St. Egwin. A dense, compact grower, completely covered with soft lilac-pink blossoms. One of the best of its color. Delightful combined with the lavender sorts. Late August and September. 2½ ft. 25 cts. each.

Beauty of Colwall. Very large, semi-double flowers of rich lavender. Stiff, branching growth, 4 feet tall. Excellent for cutting. The best of the double sorts. August and September. 25 cts. each.

Climax. Perhaps the finest of all; certainly the most distinct. A tall, strong grower, 4 to 5 feet tall, loaded down with masses of large daisy-like flowers, over an inch across, of the most delicious, soft, rich lavender, with broad yellow centers. 30 cts. each.

Novæ-Angliæ. Our native New England Aster. Thick, stiff stems, 5 to 6 feet tall, clothed with rough, light-colored leaves and holding up immense heads of large, deep purple flowers, with bright yellow centers. One of the sturdiest growers and the best for naturalizing.

Lil Fardell. A deep, rich lilac-pink form of the above; very fine. 4 ft.

Finchley White. Strong, erect grower. Flowers large, daisy-shaped, with narrow, pure white petals. 4 to 5 ft.

Tataricus. Very valuable and distinct late variety, with large, coarse leaves and massive stems, 5 to 6 feet tall. The flowers are lavender with yellow centers, borne in large, upright heads. *Aster Tataricus* makes a striking effect in isolated masses, in the border, or grouped among shrubs. Very lasting when cut. Space 2 ft.



A milky-way of tiny Aster stars

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Baptisia · False Indigo

Baptisias can be readily placed as near relatives of the Lupines, and if their flowers are not quite so richly colored, they have the advantage of retaining their foliage all summer. The leaves are silvery green, gracefully pinnate in form.

Australis. Spikes of deep steel-blue, pea-shaped flowers in June. The plant is of very distinct and decorative outline, and is one of the most permanent of hardy perennials. It will do well in partial shade, or can be naturalized in woods and along streams.

Boltonia · False Chamomile

For the amateur at least, it seems a purely arbitrary division that classifies Boltonias as distinct from Asters. Their habit of growth and style of flowering is exactly the same.

Asteroides. A single plant in the border makes an astonishingly fine effect if well cared for—an enormous, billowy mound, 6 feet high by 3 or 4 feet wide, with literally thousands of little fine-petaled, pure white blossoms. Those who have noticed the plant straggling weedly along the dusty roadside may be, perhaps, a little skeptical of the above description; until one has seen it, it is hard to realize the immense improvement effected by rich soil, plenty of water, and plenty of room. Needless to say it must be divided and re-set annually if the best results are to be obtained. 2 ft.

Latisquama. Not so rank a grower as Asteroides, and with flowers of a pretty, soft, pinkish lavender. 5 ft.

Calystegia

Pubescens. This pretty little trailer is by no means new, but for some reason is very seldom seen. I have been trying to bring it some of the appreciation it deserves ever since I first saw it

Calystegia, continued

running wild in a vacant lot, carpeting the rough ground with wreaths of its charming flowers. Certainly few things are finer for covering low stumps or rocks, or any piece of waste ground. Providing it has sun, no sort of soil or situation discourages it or keeps it from blooming profusely and spreading with astonishing rapidity. In its many twining stems, and smooth, heart-shaped leaves, the Calystegia somewhat resembles a sweet-potato vine. The flowers are double and borne in sprays; soft cool pink, of a satiny texture. If trained as a climber, the plant will grow 4 to 5 feet high. June and July. Space 1 ft.

Campanula

Carpatica (Carpathian Harebell). A thick, spreading mat of small, violet-like leaves, from which rise numberless thread-like stems, supporting dainty bell-shaped blossoms of a clear lavender-blue. The main crop appears in June, but they continue to open in considerable numbers until late fall. A delicate and charming plant, very useful for edging and planting in rockeries, and in crevices of old walls. Increases rapidly. 6 in.; space the same.

Chrysanthemum Maximum

Shasta Daisy

Maximum (Shasta Daisy). Anyone who likes the common field-daisy—and most flower-lovers will confess a fondness for that “despised weed”—can feel perfectly safe in planting the Shasta in their garden, in entire confidence that it will not imitate its wild cousin by overrunning everything else on the place. Also the flowers are much larger, often 4 inches across, with long, graceful petals. For cutting they are very satisfactory and lasting, and in the border they are always handsome in broad masses in front of plants of more erect habit. If left undivided for more than two years, the clumps are apt to die out in the center, and the same effect is sometimes caused by a too solid winter mulch. The plants I offer are all seedlings of the variety Alaska, and should all bear flowers of good size and shape. Late June and July. 12 to 18 in.; space 1 ft.

Hardy Chrysanthemums

By universal consent, Chrysanthemums have come to be regarded as the typical autumn flowers. But while the greenhouse kinds have grown steadily in favor since their introduction from Japan many years ago, the Chrysanthemum's career in the garden has been a very checkered one. Fifty years or so ago, when taste in such matters was at a higher level than in the generations immediately succeeding, Chrysanthemums were universally esteemed and were found in every garden. Later on they dropped out of fashion, only to be seen around old farmhouses and in other out-of-the-way places, happily isolated from the pernicious bedding-plant craze. When they finally began to come back into favor, five or six years ago, it was mostly the small button-flowered or pompon type that was offered to the public. Now that the plants are again fairly valued, however, we have a great many forms to choose from, both large and small. The new



Chrysanthemum maximum; Shasta Daisy

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Hardy Chrysanthemums, continued

French early-flowering varieties have proved to be great acquisitions, but there is still no reason for discarding the later-flowering sorts.

Chrysanthemums are particularly rich in bronzy yellows and dull reds,—shades suggestive of autumn coloring, but, on the other hand, there are numberless softer tones, so that altogether in the range of their coloring and in its sober richness and delicacy, one is reminded of the finest tapestry or oriental rugs. A solid bed or long border of Chrysanthemums gives a very fine effect, particularly against a south wall, and in the garden they would be hard to dispense with, when we think of the wealth of bloom and color given by them alone in the days of approaching winter. Clumps scattered at intervals through the borders will brighten the whole garden. Charming effects can be had with a progression of delicate shades; the more intense colors are perhaps better kept separate.

Young plants should be allowed plenty of room the first year so that the stools or runners can form properly for next year's growth. Chrysanthemums are shallow-rooting plants, but gross feeders, and it will pay for every grower to make the ground very rich before planting, and to give them an extra fertilizing during the summer by digging in a handful of bone-meal.

I have indicated the more tender sorts in the list below, but, on the whole, more Chrysanthemums are killed by too heavy a covering than by cold. For winter protection, straw or salt-hay is best; if manure is used, see that it is fresh and strawy. Under a thick, soggy layer of mulch the plants are very apt to rot. Spring planting is preferable, and I have found that young plants from cuttings give just as good results the first year as do older plants. When they have grown a few inches after being set out, pinch off the tips of the stems, and repeat this in late July. Treated thus, they will give larger and much better formed heads of bloom.

Early-Flowering Chrysanthemums

Below are the best and most distinct varieties of the new French early Chrysanthemums that came as such a pleasant surprise a season or so ago. The flowers are large, and generally aster-shaped, of beautiful clear colors. Though not quite so hardy as the Pompons, they will winter over very easily if given some protection.

Miss F. Collier. Pure white, shaded cream at center; rather low grower; the best white.

Perle Chatillonnaise. Delicate creamy yellow, shading deeper at the center. Fine.

Primavere. Rich lemon-yellow; large, incurved blooms; the best of its color.

Border Beauty. Deep orange-yellow shading to red at the base of petals. Coarse leaves and low, branching growth.

Aquitaine. Bronzy salmon; very large.

Daisy Anderson. Bright reddish bronze; low grower; very free bloomer; very early.

L'Argenteuillais. Rich terra-cotta red, reverse of petals often bronze-yellow; strong, robust grower; one of the most satisfactory.

Glory of Seven Oaks. Very brilliant deep yellow; a particularly free and continuous bloomer.



Hardy Chrysanthemums

Champagne. Deep crimson; large and showy.

Normandie. One of the finest; delicate flesh-pink, fading to white, sometimes tinted cream at center. Perfectly formed flowers of extremely fresh and delicate coloring.

Provence. Rose-pink, center petals tipped yellow; dwarf grower.

Lilac Caprice. Deep old-rose; very branching habit, and very free bloomer; large.

May Suydam. Rich bronze; very large flowers in clusters, with thick, incurved petals; distinct and fine variety. Late.

All early varieties 25 cts. each.

Late-Blooming Chrysanthemums

These include both Pompon, Button-flowered, and a few Large-flowered types. They bloom from the middle of October to the time of severe frosts.

Klondyke. Pure deep yellow; the best of its color. Large.

Golden Climax. Pompon. Rich orange-yellow; later than Klondyke; free bloomer.

Baby. Tiny, globular golden yellow flowers, less than ½ inch across; dainty. Very late.

Fairy Queen. Soft, cool pink, fading to blush-white; well-formed flowers. Midseason.

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Late-Blooming Chrysanthemums, continued

Lillian Doty. The most valuable of the newer Pompons, and probably the best all-round pink. Strong, upright grower, with fine, long stems for cutting. Flowers in clusters, globular, with pointed, incurved petals; pale shell-pink, sometimes shaded with white. The flowers last surprisingly long in water. An exquisite plant. Early. 25 cts. each.

Nesco. New. Button type. Pretty shade of old-rose. Early. 25 cts. each.

Elva. Pure white; the best white Pompon.

Inga. Brilliant mahogany-scarlet; early; large, flat flowers. Very showy.

Lillia. Very tall; late bloomer; flowers of a rich cerise-scarlet color.

Julia Lagravere. Rich, deep garnet. Late.

Indian. Terra-cotta red, fading to dull orange. This is one of the oldest varieties.

Autumn Glow. A companion to Indian. Deep magenta, but not at all an offensive shade; both these last two varieties are tall, robust growers.

Single Chrysanthemums

As has been the case with many plants, the single forms of the Chrysanthemum were discarded almost as soon as the double ones began to be developed, in spite of the fact that the former were often the more decorative. Now, however, with our improving taste, we are again beginning to value the simpler forms.

Single Chrysanthemums are all very graceful growers and are excellent for cutting. Most of them are late bloomers; the very latest sorts should be grown in a sheltered situation to insure their flowering to perfection. All should be well protected.



Dazzling Yellow Coreopsis

Single Chrysanthemums, continued

Mensa. Large; pure white, with green disk. Late.

Charles Kingsley. Pure deep yellow. Medium late.

Margaret Walker. Rich yellow, shaded bronze; several rows of petals. Fine free bloomer. Early. 30 cts. each.

Rockshaw. Pale clear orange-salmon; medium-sized flower. Early. 30 cts. each.

Mary Richardson. Rich, bright apricot. One of the best. Medium late.

Brightness. Brilliant deep scarlet; large. Very late.

Sylvia Slade. Rich crimson, with a white ring around the central disk; very showy. Medium late.

Garza. Anemone-shape, with center of small, close petals; creamy white. Medium late.

Yellow Garza. Identical in size and shape, but a clear yellow.

Convallaria · Lily-of-the-Valley

Majalis (Lily-of-the-Valley). Surely no description is necessary of the little Lily-of-the-Valley, one of the best-loved and probably the most fragrant of hardy plants. If you have an especial affection for this plant (few gardeners have not), and would like to see it at its very best, then don't tuck it away in some shady corner where the tree-roots will rob the soil of all nourishment or where the rain seldom penetrates. Plant a big patch of it in full sun, in the richest soil you can supply, and see that it never suffers for want of water. Then watch the result.

Lilies-of-the-Valley are charming scattered through masses of low ferns, but they soon begin sending up sparse and slender flowers unless they are given more fertilizer and moisture than is required by the ferns alone. No one needs to be told how choice the Convallaria is for cutting; lucky is the person who can gather great bowlfuls of blossoms and leaves. Try combining them with forget-me-nots, both in the garden and in the house. May. 6 to 10 in.; space 8 in.

Coreopsis

Coreopsis is distinctly a beginner's plant; no one can fail with it or fail to like it. Its hardiness, freedom of bloom and robust yet graceful habit combine to make it one of the most useful of garden flowers. Indeed, in their first enthusiasm for something so eminently satisfactory, most people are apt to rather overdo it by spreading its brilliant color over most of their garden. This is a mistake, for a yellow of so high a key is decidedly garish when combined with other colors in very large masses. But used judiciously, it is very effective, and if the old blossoms are kept picked off, the plants will furnish a mass of color from June until the middle of the fall.

Lanceolata grandiflora is the best variety, with flat, daisy-like flowers, deep, pure yellow, 3 inches across, with the petals notched at the ends. The long, smooth stems make it ideal for cutting. Coreopsis can readily be naturalized in an open, grassy field, where the flowers make a beautiful picture scattered through the sod like field daisies. No perennial is easier to grow from seed. 2 to 3 ft.; space 18 in.

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Delphinium

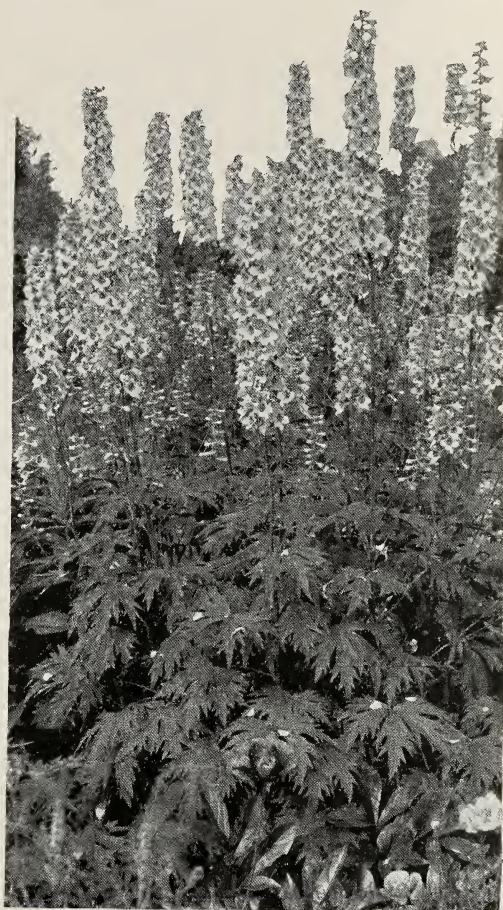
Hardy Larkspurs

Out of the great list of garden plants, four families stand preëminent: Peonies, irises, phloxes and lastly, Delphiniums—the queen of blue flowers, and to my mind, at least, the loveliest of hardy plants. The qualities that lift the Delphinium out of the rank and file are, first, hardiness and rapidity of growth; second, length of blooming period; third, the beauty and distinctly decorative quality of their form and outline; and, last, and most important, the rare richness and delicacy of their coloring. Their only defects are a decided brittleness of stem, and an aversion to soil that contains any fresh manure, or is sour and poorly drained.

The name Delphinium is of Greek origin, and means "dolphin flower," from its supposed resemblance to that fish—a resemblance that is more apparent in the buds than in the fully opened flowers. The English name Larkspur, which is less used than formerly, refers to the short tail or spur that projects backward from the center of the flower.

A few forms of the Delphinium have been known and prized for many years—they are mentioned by Parkinson and other early writers on flower-gardening as being favorites even in their time. Nevertheless, it is only within the last generation that, by elaborate cross-breeding and selection, the Delphinium has been brought to its present high standard. And it is only within the last couple of years that Americans have begun to appreciate the many wonderful varieties introduced by such firms as Ruys & Van Veen, of Holland, and Kelway & Son, of England. In the latter country particularly, Delphiniums are universally esteemed; every plantsman lists dozens, and some even hundreds of varieties.

The Delphinium is one of the few plants that possesses a stately upright growth without the least suggestion of stiffness. Its whole form is notably decorative, from the rich, acanthus-like foliage clothing the tall, stout stems, to the tapering spires of blossoms above. It gives splendid effects in formal gardens, its decided vertical lines particularly adapting it for planting at gates and entrances near the pillars of summer-houses, at the junctures of paths, etc. Without the Delphinium, the color-range of our flower-borders would be sadly limited. Not only do they furnish our main reliance in blue, but they furnish it in every conceivable shade from the palest and most transparent azure through all the gradations of tone to the deepest sapphire and indigo, not only in self-colors, but in some lovely opalescent shades—pale blue clouded with rose, like a bit of iridescent shell. Besides the blues, and often combined with them in the same flower, there are deep purples, violets, lilacs, lilac-pinks, lavenders and even whites, while in some of the species there is even an occasional yellow and scarlet. A special feature of the flowers is the small eye-like center petals, which may be either blue, white, yellow, brown or black, and which always have the effect of intensifying the color by their contrast. Such a range of color-tones, of course, supplies a wealth of material for artistic use in the garden, especially as, even at its poorest, the Delphinium has at least two blooming periods. The accepted companion for the Larkspur is the pure white *Lilium candidum*, and this combination always gives an effect that is as lovely as it is easy to achieve. Pale salmon-pink snapdragons, *Aquilegia chrysantha*, *Thermopsis Caro-*



The splendid decorative effect of the stately larkspur

liniana and any of the more delicate shades in phloxes, such as Elizabeth Campbell, Eugene Dancanvilliers, Mme. Paul Dutrie and Miss Lingard, are all good companions among the taller plants, while among the lower growers that can be used as a frame or setting to the Delphiniums are the dwarf phlox, Tapis Blanc, *Oenothera Missouriensis*, *Achillea*, *The Pearl*, and, among annuals, *ageratum*, *Phlox Drummondii*, pale yellow nasturtiums and white petunias. However, these are only suggestions: every gardener can work out others for himself. In the mixed border, Delphiniums are perhaps better in isolated groups of several plants of a color than in very large masses, unless a bed is devoted entirely to them. In this case, the freest blooming sorts, like *Belladonna semiplenum* should be used.

CULTURE.—Delphiniums do best in full sun, in a deep, well-dug soil, with plenty of fertilizer. However, as they dislike any manure that has not been very well rotted, it is just as well to do without animal fertilizer altogether, applying it instead in the form of bone-meal, which always gives excellent results. Mature plants should have a space of 2 feet, and it is well not to crowd them the first year if a rapid development is wished for. Keep the ground around them well stirred, or else mulch with a couple of inches of lawn-clippings or old manure—any means to keep the soil from baking

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Delphinium, continued

dry. As soon as the spikes of bloom have withered, cut them off at the ground and a new crop will soon spring up. At this time it is also a good plan to dig a handful of bone-meal around the plants and give them a good soaking with water or liquid manure. In the winter, besides the usual protection, cover the crowns with an inch of coarse ashes or sand to prevent slugs from attacking the young sprouts, and also to keep water from collecting and rotting the plants. After three or four seasons it is better to divide the plants and replant them, preferably in the spring.

Belladonna Types

Some years ago *Delphinium Belladonna* was greatly prized as the freest blooming and most delicately colored of hardy Larkspurs, in spite of the fact that it was a plant of rather weak and spindling growth. It also had the disadvantage of being a very shy seeder, but from a chance plant in the nursery of Sutton & Sons a race of Belladonna seedlings was finally developed, and from these in turn, crossed with the other sorts, came the named Belladonna Hybrids.

All these kinds resemble the original Belladonna in their graceful branching habit and loose, open spikes of bloom, but they surpass it in freedom of flowering and in their robust and sturdy habit. Undoubtedly they are the most satisfactory of all Delphiniums; every one can be given the highest praise.

Capri. Neither sea nor sky at the enchanted spot this variety is named for could be of a lovelier shade of pale, diaphanous blue. The plants are particularly vigorous, growing to a height of 6 feet, with many side branches from the main stalk, and splendid long spikes of widely open flowers. An almost continuous bloomer. 40 cts. each.

Mrs. J. S. Brunton. Is of a deeper and more intense blue than Capri, a blue with a luster like blue enamel. Though it grows only about 2½ feet tall, the flower-spikes are particularly large and widely branching, and the individual blossoms exquisitely formed. A very beautiful sort and a wonderfully free bloomer. 50 cts. each.

Theodora. Probably the loveliest of single Delphiniums, with a charm quite distinct from any other kind. It has particularly finely divided foliage of a grayish green, and very graceful branching spikes of large, flat flowers, but its chief glory is its color—a clear cornflower-blue, of extraordinary depth and richness, surprisingly heightened by a soft brown eye. For masses it gives an effect that is undeniably beautiful. Should always be staked, as the stems are not quite so sturdy as the other Belladonna types. 4 to 5 ft. 50 cts. each.

Lamartine is the darkest variety—a deep indigo, contrasting vividly with its pure white center. A rather low branching grower; very hardy and strikingly effective. 40 cts. each.

Belladonna semiplenum. Perhaps the most valuable Delphinium on my list; a plant that has absolutely every good quality except fragrance. As its name suggests, it is semi-double, a widely open, loosely formed flower of a clear soft blue, a trifle deeper than Capri. On each petal there is a little touch of pinkish lilac, which does not muddy the

color in the least, as one might expect; seen close at hand it gives a charming effect, and at a little distance it is quite invisible. Though the plant rarely exceeds 3 feet in height, the flower-spikes are so loose and graceful that there is no suggestion of “dumpiness.” They are ideal for cutting, not only because of their beauty of form and color, but because an almost unlimited quantity of blooms can be taken from the plants without sacrificing their decorative value in the garden; new flower-stems keep springing up before the old ones have faded. Last summer, with the exception of about a week in August, there was not a day from the last of May to the last of October when my nursery rows of Semiplenum were not covered with bloom. Such a record could hardly be equaled by any other plant. Moreover, it is hardier and increases more rapidly than any other double Larkspur. 35 cts. each, \$3.50 per doz.

Moerheimi. Mr. Ruys of the Royal Moerheim Nurseries, must have congratulated himself when he introduced this notable pure white Delphinium. Many double whites had previously been sent out by the Kelways, but none that could compare with Moerheimi in color or habit. As the originator has stated, it is the counterpart of Capri in everything but color, which is a pure, cool white, with a cream-yellow eye. Nothing has been given out concerning the parentage of this plant, but in habit and flowers, if not in foliage, it very closely resembles an enlarged Chinese album.

It is hardly necessary to say what splendid effects can be had by using Moerheimi, either grouped alone or combined with the other varieties, in which case it can take the place of *Lilium candidum* in gardens where that noble plant is difficult to establish. Try planting it back of masses of deep orange California poppies or African daisies. Next to Semiplenum, the most continuous bloomer. 50 cts. each.

Belladonna Seedlings. These plants are a little variable in shade, but most of them are a clear sky-blue, almost identical with the old Belladonna, which I have discarded. The individual blossoms are larger and the plants taller, averaging about 5 feet when established. They are free bloomers, and are excellent for massing or for planting in the reserve garden, where they will supply an abundance of fine flowers for cutting. Good, strong plants, 25 cts. each, \$2.50 per doz.

Double Varieties

These are of a more massive, erect habit than the Belladonna types and generally do not bloom more than two or three times during the summer. They are very showy.

Amos Perry. Very large flowers on massive spikes; semi-double; outer petals sky-blue, inner petals rich lavender, with a conspicuous black eye. Very distinct. 50 cts. each. 6 ft.

Corry. Very long spikes, closely set with immense flat flowers over 2 inches across. In color it is one of the richest and most showy of the double sorts; a combination of brilliant blue and violet, with a dark brown center. 50 cts. each.

Mrs. Creighton. Outer petals deep sapphire-blue, inner petals rich purple, with a dark eye. A very dense spike, perhaps a bit crowded for the best garden effect; but, cut and brought into the house, the colors take on a peculiar luminous quality,

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Double Delphiniums, continued

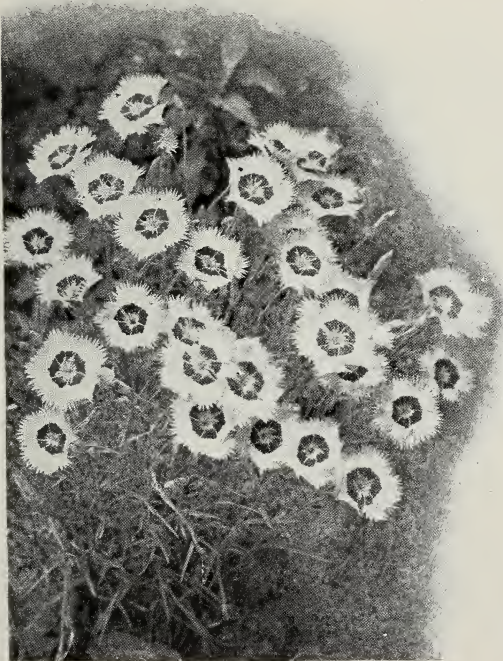
like that of stained glass. The variety Zuster Lugton is so similar that I am offering both under one name. 50 cts. each.

Polar Star. Rather low grower, not over 4 feet, with close spikes of ruffled, semi-double flowers, ivory-white, with a pale yellow center. A good, strong grower with distinct, coarse foliage. By far the best double white. Very effective with the deep blue double sorts. 50 cts. each.

Twin-Larches Seedlings

Seedling Delphiniums present an innumerable variety of form and color—every shade of blue, and every type of spike and flower, both double and single. Seed of separate named varieties is often sold, but as a matter of fact, the descendants of a given kind will approach that kind only in a general way as a type; many will be totally distinct. However, it goes without saying that the finest named varieties produce the largest proportion of fine seedlings; hence the pity that so many of the most beautiful Delphiniums never mature seed. The plants I offer below are very large and thrifty, and should give excellent results the first season. They have been raised from seeds of the best named varieties, together with the best selected seeds of my own raising, and I can recommend them all as being excellent in color and habit, all small and inferior flowers having been discarded when they were in bloom. I have made no attempt to classify them as to color, thinking this would add to the interest of the purchaser in seeing them bloom. About 75 per cent are single, the rest double and semi-double. 25 cts. each, \$2.50 per doz., \$15 per 100.

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Single Pink

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Delphinium Species

Formosum. Though one of the oldest of garden varieties, this is still a most satisfactory plant, particularly where Delphiniums are used in large quantities. It seldom grows more than 4 feet tall, but the flowers are of a fine, brilliant gentian-blue, with a conspicuous white eye, and are of much better size than most of the older sorts.

Chinense. Chinese Larkspur. The Chinese Larkspur is a very distinct and charming plant, and not so widely grown as it deserves to be. Its finely divided foliage and spreading panicles of flowers, poised lightly on the slender, wiry stems sets it apart from all other Delphiniums. As it flowers somewhat later than the tall sorts, it may be planted close by, to fill in the gap between their first and second crops. Chinense will bloom the first year from seed as readily as any annual, and young plants set out in July will give a fine display of bloom in the late summer and early fall. After the first year, the flower-clusters assume a less spreading and more spike-like character. The typical Chinense is a deep, lustrous blue. As cut-flowers, the blossoms are particularly graceful and easy to arrange. 2 ft.; space 1 ft.

Chinense album. Exactly the same as the above, but pure white in color. It is equally desirable and perhaps less known than the blue variety. The two colors make a delightful combination, either in the garden or when cut.

Chinense Cineraria cærulea. A new and very beautiful variety. Instead of being spurred, the flowers open out flat, like a miniature cineraria, and are held erect in wide, branching clusters, about 18 inches tall. Besides their unique shape, the flowers are of such an intensely brilliant shade that they quite warrant the honor of being called the bluest of all hardy plants. A splendid plant for edging. 35 cts. each.

Brunonianum. Very distinct; spreading panicles of hooded, light purple flowers, with black centers. Should be planted in well-drained soil. 18 in.; space 1 ft. 30 cts. each.

Nudicaule. Few people are aware that there is such a thing as a scarlet Delphinium. It is a native of California, a dainty little plant about a foot tall, of somewhat similar habit to cineraria. The flowers, which do not open widely, and in fact are almost all spur, are a bright, glistening scarlet, with now and then one of orange or brick-red. After the plant has finished blooming in August, stems and leaves entirely die away, not to reappear till next spring. It should be planted in a dry, well-drained part of the border, or else taken up in the fall and stored over winter in sand like a dahlia. A pretty and appropriate bouquet for July 4th can be made by combining *Delphinium nudicaule* with *D. Chinense* and *D. Chinense album*—the three colors are a perfect match to those on our flag. 25 cts. each.

Dianthus

Pinks, Sweet Williams, etc.

There always seems a subtle flavor of olden times about Pinks and Sweet Williams—a quaint primness that is far from displeasing. Their delicious spicy scent calls up visions of other days and other gardens—cosy gardens of our grandmothers' day, with rose-covered trellises, and box borders, and "posies" in ordered rows. And the charm that earned them their favor in past years seems likely to endure as long as there are flowers and flower-gardeners to love them.

Dianthus, continued

Plumariüs. Spice or Grass Pink. No plant can surpass the Pink as a filler or edging plant; their thick, rounded mats of blue-green, grass-like foliage give just the right effect of substantial finish, with no hint of undue stiffness or formality. A continuous border of white Pinks looks delightful against the dull red-browns of an old brick walk. Pinks spread with astonishing rapidity; a small plant set out in the spring will soon cover many square inches of surface. Unlike plants of similar habit, the stems send out no roots, so that the whole mass may easily be lifted from the ground. Some mistaken notion often impels plantsmen to state that Pinks are continuous bloomers, but as a rule the blooms are few and far between after their big display in late May. The foliage, however, is always attractive, both summer and winter, and the plants will grow in any sort of soil, even in chinks in old walls, provided they have a good supply of sun. The mixed seedlings are as satisfactory as any for general planting. They range from white through all shades of cool pink to crimson, both double and single. All are strongly clove-scented. Mixed Pinks, 15 cts. each.

Napoleon III. This is undoubtedly the finest of named Pinks, and though by no means a difficult plant to grow, is very seldom offered for sale in this country. It is a really continuous bloomer, with several flowers to a stem. They are delicately perfumed, and of the richest deep crimson. The foliage is very distinct, soft light green, drooping instead of stiff as in other Pinks. A very valuable flower. 6-in.; space the same. 50 cts. each.

Countess Knuth. Robust grower, over a foot tall, with large, fragrant flowers of a soft apricot-yellow, a shade exactly like that of certain tea roses. A distinct break in hardy Pinks, and a most unusual and beautiful plant. Excellent for cutting. Blooms in June. 35 cts. each.

Latifolius atrococcineus fl.-pl. A very cumbersome name for a most showy and striking plant, which, though introduced some years ago, is comparatively little known. It is a hybrid between the Sweet William and the true Pink, and resembles the first in its individual flowers, and the latter in the fact that they are borne in flat branching clusters. Though the plant is not fragrant, and is a trifle stiff in habit, it has the advantage of blooming from June till frost if the old flowers are kept cut; and its color is as fine a pure, deep scarlet as can be found among hardy plants.

Barbatus. Sweet William. It is a mistake to think of Sweet William as a common or inferior plant. On the contrary, it measures up to the highest standard of excellence among hardy plants. In one particular point, namely, richness of texture, there is probably no flower that can match it. Some of the blossoms look as if cut out of finest velvet, while others have an indescribable frosted appearance. And in certain shades of red—deep, blackish scarlets, and glowing ruby tones—they are altogether unrivaled, not to mention the excellent new salmon-pink varieties. The richness of their color effect is no doubt due in large part to their compact, upright growth, and close heads of bloom. This type of growth also gives them characteristic horizontal lines that contrast well with the vertical ones of *digitalis*, *delphiniums*, etc. Sweet Williams are never satisfactory for more than two years, and perhaps are even best treated as biennials. Once they have bloomed the stems become weak and sprawling, the flower-spikes sparse and the clumps

often die out in the center. Any sort of soil will suit them and they are perfectly hardy. Season of bloom from May 15 to June 15. Height 18 in.; space 10 in.

Newport Pink. A fine new variety of a rich salmon-pink, a lovely shade.

Deep Maroon-Red. One of the darkest of flowers; perhaps the most striking variety.

Mixed. Sweet William in Mixture gives a rich tapestry-like effect, and the colors seldom clash. All shades of scarlet, crimson, pink, and white, with many flowers with deeper centers and rings of different colors.

Dictamnus · Gas-Plant

Fraxinella alba. Gas-Plant. If one is looking for a quick-growing, free-blooming, adaptable plant, one that will stand dividing up and moving about, then he had better avoid the *Dictamnus*. But if he wishes something distinctive, something that will give a note of stateliness and solid dignity to his garden and that will live longer than the longest-lived human being, then he will do well to invest in a few Gas-Plants. Plant them in full sun, where they can remain undisturbed, and when established they will produce a fine symmetrical mass of glossy, palmate foliage, clothing several stout stems 3 feet tall, dressed with large, widely open white flowers, of a graceful winged shape with long, protruding anthers. These are followed by huge, decorative seed-pods, covered with a viscous reddish down. The whole plant secretes a volatile oil, strongly and agreeably lemon-scented, and on very hot, sunny days this will ignite with a brief puff of flame, if a lighted match is applied to the flowers. Hence the name Gas Plant. There is a pink-flowered form of *Dictamnus*, but it is by no means so attractive as the white.

*Dictamnus fraxinella*

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*Dicentra spectabilis*

Dicentra · Bleeding-Heart

Spectabilis. Here is a fine old plant that is again coming into favor, and most deservedly so. Almost every old farmhouse has its clump of "Bleeding-Hearts," as should every garden, old or new. Early in the spring the plant sends up its succulent, bronzy green shoots, and by early May they have developed into a circular mass of delicate fern-like foliage from which rise many gracefully arching leafy stems, hung with innumerable blossoms that tremble in the slightest breeze. These blossoms are rose-pink, heart-shaped, with a pearly pendant at the tip, set between two tiny reflexed petals. A more quaintly and daintily formed flower it would be hard to imagine. Children, especially, always delight in them and, by pulling them to pieces, form microscopic rabbits, harps, and many other marvelous things. Love-Lies-Bleeding, Lady's Eardrops, Seal-Flower, and many other names testify to the poetic analogies suggested by this delightful plant. Can be left undivided indefinitely, and will thrive in partial and even in absolute shade. $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft.; space about the same.

Digitalis · Foxglove

Foxgloves, with their immense downy leaves and towering spikes of bloom, always make one of the most striking and impressive pictures in the garden. Few plants so combine massiveness and vigor with such decorative grace of outline. White Foxgloves look well with almost every garden flower, and are particularly fine outlined against a mass of green in the shrubbery border, or rising here and there from a bank of ferns. Or they may be used with splendid effect grouped in regular rows on each side of a broad grass walk.

Foxgloves in the border always seed themselves so freely that I see no reason why we could not follow the English plan of naturalizing them in thickets and along the edges of woods. To come on a colony at the end of a long woodland vista would be a treat for the artistic sense indeed. Foxgloves are generally considered biennials, but they can be made to live one additional year and often more by cutting the flower-stems close to the

Digitalis, continued

ground immediately after blooming. This will cause new crowns to form around the old ones, which will carry the plant safely over winter, when they should be protected by a light, porous mulch. It would be a small fox indeed that could wear a *Digitalis* blossom for a glove; much more do they resemble inverted thimbles, set closely along the stalk in overlapping rows. Foxgloves grow readily in shady places. June and July. From 3 to 6 feet, according to soil and situation; space 18 in.

I offer the plants in two colors, rose-pink and white, both attractively dotted with brown within the throat.

Doronicum · Leopard's Bane

Excelsum. A very valuable and little-known perennial for early spring blooming, that will do well in damp, partly shaded places as well as in full sun. The leaves are broad, and spread out close to the ground; the stems are long and slender, and the flowers upright, daisy-shaped, 4 inches across, with narrow, gracefully recurving petals of clear yellow. The only flower of its type in bloom so early in the year, and a very showy and lasting one. Should be planted in good-sized masses. Late April and early May. $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft.; space 1 ft.

*Digitalis, the stateliest of perennials*

I shall be glad to give my customers any helpful information I can regarding their gardens and gardening problems

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A glimpse of snowy August Lilies

Funkia · August Lily

Subcordata grandiflora. Why is it that so few realize the possibilities of this grand old plant. Every time I see on someone's front lawn a perfectly circular bed of Funkias, pale and wan in the scorching August sun, with an ugly brown border to every leaf and the flowers wilting dejectedly on their stalks, I have a feeling of irritation and disgust that could hardly be much greater if that bed were filled with scarlet geraniums and magenta petunias, or some such excruciating combination. But, as a contrast to that picture, I can call up another—a colony of August Lilies growing in an angle of a north wall, backed by rhododendrons and Virginia creeper. Here the great heart-shaped leaves can come to perfection without a flaw in the cool, pale green, and when a dozen or more flower-spikes are crowned with clusters of long-tubed, frosty white lilies, crisp and exquisite and deliciously fragrant, then that shady corner is indeed a place of beauty. For that is the secret in growing Funkias—they must have shade, or the leaves will inevitably scorch and the flowers last even less than the one day that is supposed to constitute their lifetime. Indeed they seem to need no sun whatever, even for their most perfect development. Besides the situation I have mentioned, they do well and look well planted in the shadow of evergreens, and they can be grown in shady nooks along the banks of streams and ponds. Their decorative leafage also makes them adaptable for use around pools and in paved courts of formal gardens. Blooms in August. 2½ ft.; space 18 in.

Gaillardia · Blanket Flower

Grandiflora. A flower of brilliant and barbaric coloring; a very free bloomer, and though of rather awkward and sprawling habit, a very valuable border plant. The blossoms are daisy-shaped, with

Gaillardia, continued

thick, flannel-like centers, and broad petals with notched ends, marked with varying rings of deep maroon-red and brilliant orange-yellow. Keep the old flowers cut, stem and all, and Gaillardias will bloom from July until frost. They are better planted quite close together, say 6 inches, as then the plants will help support each other and the mass of blossoms be showier. They should, of course, be kept away from all delicate shades of pink and blue, but can be combined with other oranges, yellows, scarlets, and whites. Few flowers are more satisfactory for cutting than Gaillardias. Mixed, red and yellow sorts, 15 cts. each.

Lady Rolliston. Very distinct novelty; the finest of Gaillardias. Rich, deep yellow, with no hint of any other color. Immense, perfectly formed blooms, and robust, erect habit. 50 cts. each.

Gypsophila · Baby's Breath

Paniculata. Familiarity with the Gypsophila might almost be regarded as a criterion of good taste in flower-gardening. It is the most refined and ethereal of plants, and to those who know how to use it skilfully, one of the most valuable. Nothing else is like it—a rounded mass of innumerable, branching flower-stems, thread-like, yet stiff, all holding out the minutest pearly flowers, hundreds on one plant, so that they make a gauzy shimmer of white. Flower-gardens filled exclusively with showy, robust plants, even of the finest varieties, will inevitably look coarse and over-dressed, and to remedy this defect nothing is more efficacious than an occasional well-placed cloud of Baby's Breath. An excellent scheme is to plant it among oriental poppies; it will be in full bloom when the poppies have disappeared for their annual rest. Anyone who has used Gypsophila for combining with cut-flowers will testify how wonderfully useful it is for this purpose. July and August. 3 ft.; a well-developed plant will cover a space of 2½ ft.

Helenium · Sneezewort

Plants of strikingly massive growth and gorgeous richness of color—forerunners of autumn in their glowing reds and yellows. *Helenium autumnale superbum*, which is one of our native wild flowers, was the only kind much grown in the past, but now that we have such varieties as those given below, it has been quite superseded. Heleniums are fine grouped in the background of the flower-border, and perhaps still more useful planted in the shrubbery border. In either case all they require is full sun, which is necessary in order to bring out the normal depth of their coloring. The plants increase so rapidly that unless divided every spring the flower-spikes are apt to become weakened, which seriously detracts from their appearance, as one of their chief distinctions is the enormous, spreading heads of bloom. Blooming from late August for three or four weeks. 5 ft.; space 18 in.

Superbum rubrum. Narrow, drooping leaves clothe the sturdy stems that hold up an immense, flat, branching cluster of daisy-shaped flowers, with prominent central disks. The individual blooms are 1½ inches wide and of the most unique color; on opening, a deep terra-cotta-scarlet, like a wall-flower, which gradually fades to a sort of burnt

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Helenium, continued

orange, a tone similar to that of the variety Riverton Gem, but of greater warmth and purity.

Riverton Beauty. Of the same habit as Rubrum, but with flowers of a pure, deep lemon-yellow, with brown-black centers. These two varieties make a brilliant combination.

Both varieties of *Helenium*, 25 cts. each

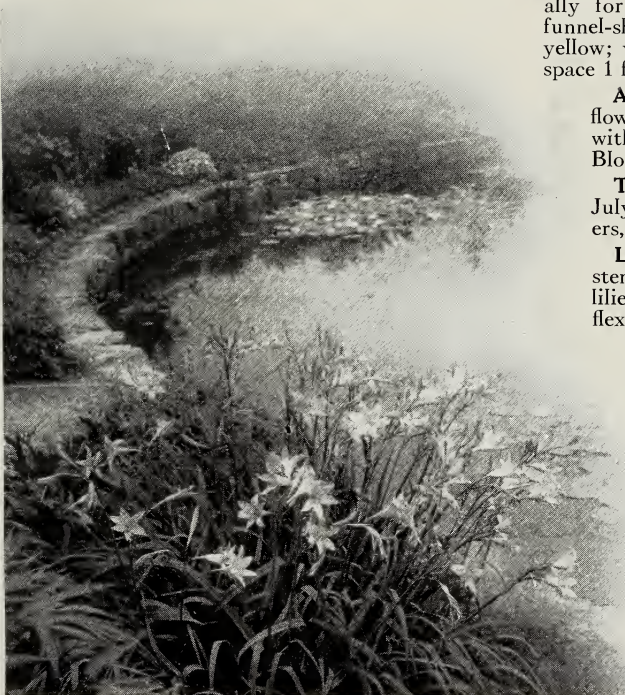
Helianthus · Hardy Sunflower

To most people I imagine the name Sunflower immediately suggests a stiff, tree-like plant, bearing one great coarse flower as big round as a bucket—something they would never connect with the graceful perennial *Helianthi*. These grow equally tall, to be sure, but their habit is most graceful, with branching stems at once slender and vigorous, and attractive narrow foliage. The flowers appear in late summer and fall, quantities of them with long, stiff stems that make them splendid for cutting. *Helianthi* spread amazingly fast by means of creeping rootstocks, and this, together with their great size, makes them rather troublesome to grow in the garden unless lifted annually. Nothing, however, is more suitable for grouping with shrubs, along fence-rows or around buildings, or for naturalizing in any rough place, especially in connection with hardy asters. In the garden, allow a space of 3 feet and stake firmly.

Multiflorus maximus. Dark, glistening stems, and large, flat flowers of great substance, 4 or 5 inches across, deep brilliant yellow. Extra-fine for cutting. August. 6 to 7 ft.

Miss Mellish. A lighter shade of yellow and a trifle more compact grower.

Wolley Dod. The best of the September-flowering sorts; entirely distinct. 6 ft.



Hemerocallis flava in a congenial situation

Hemerocallis**Lemon or Day Lily**

More appropriate than the general run of plant-names is the title given to these beautiful lily-like flowers. *Hemerocallis* is derived from the Greek "hemera," a day, and "kallos," beauty, i. e., beauty that lasts but a day. Fortunately, however, it is only the individual blossom whose lifetime is so short; like its near relative the funkia, the *Hemerocallis* has a cluster of flowers at the tip of tall slender stems, and these flowers open one after another, so that the whole blooming period covers several weeks.

A distinctive feature is their long, recurved, grass-like foliage, which forms a perfect setting for the tall leafless flower-stems. To get the characteristic effect of fountain-like foliage and swaying, long-stemmed blooms, *Hemerocallis*es should be planted in good-sized masses; with the exception of the coarser sorts like Queen of May, a few plants by themselves are apt to seem rather thin and ineffective. Therefore, though they increase quite rapidly, it is better to leave them undisturbed until they show the need of being divided by a decrease of bloom. Large, solid beds of *Hemerocallis* are very fine and afford a quantity of bloom for cutting. In water, the buds keep opening for several days with slight decrease in size. In the mixed border, the paler yellow sorts combine well with delphiniums, and they make a pleasant contrast to irises in their style of growth. All the varieties are adapted for naturalizing, growing at their very best in damp soil, and thriving in partial, but not absolute shade. In addition to their many other good qualities, most of them are deliciously fragrant, with an odor suggestive of ripe fruit.

Flava. This is the old-fashioned "Lemon Lily" and is still one of the hardiest and best sorts, especially for massing or naturalizing. Rather short, funnel-shaped flowers, 3½ in. across; soft lemon-yellow; very fragrant. Late May and June. 3 ft.; space 1 ft.

Apricot. New. Rich, deep golden yellow flowers, 4 inches across, opening almost flat, with wide petals of great substance; fragrant. Blooms in June. 3½ ft. 25 cts. each.

Thunbergii. The latest to boom—late July and August. Long, pale lemon-yellow flowers, on graceful stems, 4 to 5 feet tall; fragrant.

Luteola. One of the finest. Stout flower-stems 5 feet tall, with as many as a dozen large lilies, 5 inches across, funnel-shaped, with reflexed petals of a clear bright yellow with a hint of green in the center. Blooms in June and often a second time in September, if kept well supplied with moisture. 25 cts. each.

Florham. A beautiful variety of American origin. Handsome, fragrant, deep yellow flowers, slightly darker than *Luteola*; widely open, with prettily fluted petals. July. 4 ft.

Queen of May. New. Very robust and showy. Broad, drooping, strap-like leaves and sturdy, branching flower-stems with as many as fifteen flowers, several of which open at once. Deep orange-yellow, and very fragrant. May, and generally again in September. 4 to 5½ ft. 35 cts. each.

Hemerocallis, continued

Aurantiaca major. This has the largest and richest-colored flowers of all Hemerocallises but unfortunately it is not quite hardy, and should be either very well protected or lifted and stored in sand over winter. Broad, recurved leaves and immense orange flowers, over 6 inches across. June and July. $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. 40 cts. each.

Citrina. A most interesting and distinct variety. The foliage is very narrow, arching out and drooping down in the most graceful fountain-like form; the flower-stems are very tall and slender, and the flowers tubular, with narrow petals 5 inches long, pale citron-yellow, slightly shaded green on the outside. The whole plant has a strong suggestion of its native land, Japan, and has the crowning merit of being the most deliciously fragrant of all Hemerocallises. July and August. 4 to 5 ft. 35 cts. each.

Fulva. This well-known kind has escaped from cultivation and is often seen growing in masses along roadsides and fences, where it gives a very happy effect. Though a bit coarse for the mixed border, it makes a splendid showing in large, separate beds, and, of course, is very valuable for naturalizing, either in moist meadows, where it produces splendid masses of foliage, or along the borders of woods and groves, where the rich tawny coloring of the flowers looks particularly well against the background of dark green. The blossoms are trumpet-shaped, 4 inches across; orange-yellow shaded dull red. Not long ago I saw a luxuriant colony of *Hemerocallis fulva* growing beside a shady bend in a stream, where the mirrored mass of hot-colored bloom was an arresting and beautiful example of what can be accomplished by a skilful use of one of the commonest and most easily grown of plants. July and August. 4 to 6 ft.; space 2 ft.



Double Hollyhocks

Heuchera · Coral Bells

Undoubtedly we Americans have undervalued, or at least overlooked, the daintier and less pretentious perennials such as this,—plants, nevertheless, whose value in garden decoration is far greater than many showier kinds.

Sanguinea, which is a native of America, has a compact rosette of small rounded leaves with scalloped edges, deep green, changing in the fall to charming tints of pink and bronze. The slenderest of flower-stems, 12 inches tall, hold up arching sprays of tiny vivid scarlet blossoms, which keep appearing from May to August. It is easily seen how valuable a plant like this would be for massing in irregular drifts along the edge of the border. For cutting, the flowers are extremely graceful and pretty. Very satisfactory for rock- and wall-gardens. Space 8 inches.

Hollyhock (*Althæa rosea*)

The noblest and most decorative of hardy plants. If the list of *supremely useful* perennials were to be narrowed down to a single plant, I am inclined to think that the Hollyhock should be awarded that place. Certainly it is the plant I would most heartily recommend to the beginner as giving the greatest satisfaction for the least care, and on the other hand it would be a sorry garden, no matter how magnificent, that did not include the Hollyhock. No one with a sense of form can help being impressed by its splendid spiring spikes of bloom, its vigorous and appropriate foliage, and the whole decorative perfection of its massive, pyramidal outline.

Group Hollyhocks in front of the shrubby border, mass them around the foundations of the house, stand them as sentinels on each side of garden gates, arbors, and the entrances to pergolas. Mrs. Ely and others have commented on the effectiveness of Hollyhocks in rows, particularly along low walls, where their "serried ranks" can be outlined against the sky, or against a mass of green beyond. One can make a glorious picture by planting a "Hollyhock avenue"—a double row of Hollyhocks closely bordering a long sod or brick walk. And don't neglect to plant them liberally along fences, against the sides of barns, around outhouses and in every ugly corner that needs brightening, for the Hollyhock is a far from particular plant and will thrive in the most unpromising soil and situation. Best of all, group them in informal colonies against a whitewashed wall—under a blaze of sun they will give an effect that is indescribably picturesque.

In the border, the enormous mass of foliage is often a serious danger to surrounding plants, so it is a good plan to keep the lower leaves clipped off. This will not injure the Hollyhocks, and will allow much better grouping nearby. If the plants are exposed to high winds, they should be staked if possible, and as soon as the flower-spikes begin to grow shabby they should be cut to the ground. Besides improving their appearance, this will induce new crowns to form, which is an advantage, as the Hollyhock, like the foxglove and anemone, is in that intermediate class between perennials and biennials. With good care, however, and some winter protection, the plants should last at least three years, and if they are in a situation where they can be allowed to seed themselves there will always be plenty of young plants to depend on.

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Six plants sold at the dozen rate. All plants listed at 25 cts. each are \$2.50 per doz., \$15 per 100

Hollyhocks, continued

No doubt the single forms are the more decorative, but they do not come true from seed; the double kinds are generally the more useful for garden effects. And their quaint ruffled blossoms have a charm all their own.

Of late years the Hollyhock has been troubled with one enemy,—the Hollyhock rust, which covers the leaves with reddish spots, later causing them to wither and drop off. In some districts this most unsightly disease has been very virulent, while in others it has never appeared. Spraying the *under sides* of the leaves with bordeaux mixture or Fungine early in the spring and several times during the summer will generally prove a successful preventive, and even check the disease to some extent after it has broken out. Examine the plants often and pick off and burn any leaf on which the disease shows signs of appearing.

Besides the fine new rose-colored variety, "Newport Pink," I offer double sorts in the following colors: white, pale yellow, crimson, and maroon-black. Also single sorts in mixture.

Hypericum · St. John's-Wort

Moserianum. This very beautiful and little-known plant is really a small shrub, though it seldom grows higher than 2 feet, and is generally killed back near the ground in the winter, springing up from the base the following spring. The stems arch outward, and are clothed with smooth, oblong, leathery leaves, symmetrically placed the whole length of the spike. The flowers are 2 inches across, shaped like a single rose, of a rich, glistening yellow. At their centers there is a wide-spreading cluster of yellow stamens, surrounding a crimson-tipped stigma. They are borne in clusters at the tips of the stems and keep appearing for most of the summer. One of the most charming and distinct of low-growing yellow perennials. Should have some protection in winter. Fine for cutting and very graceful in masses near the edge of the border, especially in front of the paler blue delphiniums. Space 1 ft.



The long-tubed flowers of the Incarvillea Delavayi

Incarvillea · Hardy Gloxinia

Delavayi. An unusual and striking plant recently introduced from China. It has a very large, tuberous root, resembling a dahlia, which in an astonishingly short time sends up large, spreading, deeply cut leaves and smooth flower-stems 18 inches tall, crowned with a horizontal cluster of tubular flowers, with flaring mouths, not unlike the common trumpet vine in shape. They are a deep rose-pink, which, though of a tone approaching magenta, is a rather rich and by no means an offensive shade. Should be well protected during the winter, or lifted and stored in sand. Space 1 ft. 25 cts. each.

Iris · Flag, or Fleur-de-Lis

From the time when it figured in Greek mythology to the day when it was made the emblem of royal France, and on through the long years to the present time, the Iris has always been surrounded with an atmosphere of story and tradition, as well as of study and devotion of a more scientific sort. Most people are familiar enough with the common "blue flag," but because of that very familiarity, they seldom trouble to notice the qualities that it has in common with all the rest of the great Iris family—the unique and elaborate structure of the flowers, their exquisite velvety or frosty texture, their richness and purity of color, and the splendid decorative effect of their clean-cut, sword-like foliage, and bold spikes of bloom. "The flower of chivalry," wrote Ruskin, "with a sword for its leaf and a lily for its heart."

Amateurs who devote their time and enthusiasm to gathering together a collection of greenhouse orchids, or other rare exotics, had far better turn their attention to the Iris. Here is a plant as hardy as a dandelion, and as easily grown as a potato, yet which offers a wealth of beauty in a variety and range that is almost endless. The diminutive *Iris cristata* is hardly 5 inches tall, while the noble *Iris ochroleuca* is as many feet. The Siberian Irises have blossoms of the utmost fragility and delicacy, while the *Iris Kaempferi*, from Japan, has great, massive blooms, sometimes a foot across.

In color, the Iris can show almost every conceivable shade except scarlet and pure blue, while there are varieties for every situation from the driest bank to the marshiest spot by the brookside. Does not this suggest a rich field for anyone who makes Iris-growing his hobby? One can judge how real is the fascination of such a pastime, when we remember how the late Sir Michael Foster practically devoted his lifetime to the study and development of this noble plant. With no commercial aim in view, he originated a very great number of new hybrids, some of which, like Mrs. Alan Gray and the glorious Caterina, are just beginning to become known. Here in America there is room for any number of Michael Fosters, nor need they be people either of great wealth or of special scientific training, for happily the Iris is the easiest sort of plant for the amateur to experiment with, while it increases so rapidly that a small outlay of money goes much farther than one would suppose, if backed by a little patience.



German Iris effectively used in the formal garden

Iris, continued

I have spoken rather of the more scientific side of Iris-raising, but the artistic side is just as important. Wonderful possibilities are open to everyone in arranging Iris-gardens, both large and small. The Germanica sorts, especially, will give color-effects of the greatest beauty, and can be used in very large masses more effectively than any other plant. And the possibilities of naturalizing *Iris Kaempferi* along the banks of streams and ponds has scarcely been touched upon.

Tall Bearded Iris

German Iris

Strictly speaking, the name German should be applied only to the common Blue Flag, and the other May-flowering sorts, but, as generally used, it includes all the tall bearded Irises of the *Amœna*, *Neglecta*, *Pallida*, *Plicata*, *Variegata*, and *Squalens* sections as well. These Irises are all of the typical "fleur-de-lis" form, with a distinct yellow beard or crest on the lower petals. They are the best-known and probably the most generally useful of all the great family, and are also the most varied in color, ranging from bright and pale yellow to cream, pure white, pale silvery lavender, and deeper lavenders of every tone to richest violets and royal purples, clarets, lilacs, and lilac-pinks. Sometimes the flowers are self-colored, sometimes the standards and falls are of different colors, or different shades of the same color, and often the falls are elaborately traced and veined with deeper tints. In the *Squalens* varieties there are also many strange and somber shades of bronze, smoke-color, and dull red, one tint often being overlaid or flushed with another, giving a curious and beautiful iridescent effect.

Most German Irises are fragrant, some with a delicious perfume suggesting locust or orange blossoms. They are effective in masses fringing the shrubby border and may be easily naturalized in the grass. In the mixed border, it is better to have a good-sized space devoted to each color than to attempt too great a mixture. Long borders entirely devoted to these Irises are very beautiful, and though the blossoming-time is comparatively short, the leaves stay fresh and attractive for most of the summer. In such borders it is well to group the

whites, pale yellows and lavenders together, gradually shading to deepest purples and clarets. Devote a separate section to the bronze *Squalens* sorts, and keep the pinkish tones away from the cruder colors, combining them with white or pale lavender. In the descriptions below, S. refers to the standards, or erect petals, and F. to the falls, or drooping petals.

CULTURE. Give the German Irises a well-drained mellow soil and full sun. Wet ground or much fresh manure will generally cause the plants to rot, and dense shade will mean few blooms, though they will do fairly well in partial shade if the situation is dry and open. Irises make an annual root-growth, beginning early in August; therefore, if planted then or early in September, they will become established before cold weather, and be sure to bloom the next season. This is not always the case if they are set out in the spring or even late in the fall. Accordingly, I strongly advise August planting. Irises may be set 2 feet apart and allowed to form large clumps, or set 1 foot apart to give a more immediate effect in mass. Place the plants so that the thickened end of the stem (rhizome) is just under the surface. Every four or five years, lift and divide in August.

Some New Irises

The Iris is one of the perennials that is being constantly developed and improved. Below are a few of the very finest sorts recently introduced by famous growers in both Europe and America.

Caterina. One of Sir Michael Foster's most beautiful hybrids. Large, massive flowers on strong, branching stems, 4½ feet tall. S. clear lavender-blue, F. long and drooping, soft lavender, distinctly veined at base; very fragrant. Ready after August, 1916. \$1 each.

Some New Irises, continued

Apollyon. Medium-sized flowers. S. rich bronze, slightly flaked maroon, F. deep mahogany-red; stigmas old gold. One of the darkest of the *Squalens* varieties. 50 cts. each.

Iris King (Iriskönig). S. lemon-yellow, F. velvety maroon-red, margined yellow; very large and brilliant. 2 ft. 50 cts. each.

Minnehaha. S. creamy white, shaded yellow, F. creamy white heavily veined maroon. Large, massive flower of unique coloring. Ready after August, 1916. \$1.25 each.

Lohengrin. Immense flower of great substance; soft silvery lilac; early. 33 in. 50 cts. each.

Mrs. Alan Gray. Uniform delicate pale lilac-pink. An exquisite variety, the finest of its color. 50 cts.

Miss Eardley. S. deep yellow, F. brilliant ruby-crimson with a narrow yellow margin. Very showy. 75 cts.

Quaker Lady. S. smoky lavender shaded yellow, F. ageratum-blue shading to old-gold at base, stigmas old gold. Beautiful flower, looking as if lighted by a golden flush from within. Ready after August, 1916. 38 in. \$1.

Pfauenauge (Peacock's Eye). S. fawn-yellow, F. plum, overlaid blue, with a yellow edge. Very distinct and striking. Low grower. 50 cts.

Princess Victoria Louise. S. clear lemon-yellow, F. light reddish purple, bordered cream. Early. A most attractive variety. 24 in. 50 cts.

May-Flowering Varieties

Common Blue Flag. The best known of Irises. Large, showy flowers. S. violet, F. a darker shade. Good for massing. 10c. each, \$1 per doz., \$7 per 100.

Amas (syn., *Macrantha*). Immense flowers. S. bright violet-blue, F. deep violet. Very handsome. 35 cts.

Kharput. S. violet, F. deep velvety violet-purple. Very large, with long drooping falls. 33 in. 25 cts.

Kochii. Uniform deep violet. Very fine.

Purple King. Rich royal purple; very showy. Slightly lighter than *Kochii*, and a trifle later.

Pallida Section

The largest-flowered of the German Irises. Mostly very tall, robust growers with wide leaves and very fragrant flowers.

Australis. Immense leaves, and flower-spikes 4 feet tall. S. deep lavender, F. soft lavender-blue. Very fragrant. 25 cts.

Albert Victor. Rich lavender, deeper than *Dalmatica*, but with narrower petals. Very fine. 4½ ft. 25 cts.

Her Majesty. New. S. pale lilac-pink, F. lilac-pink, veined deeper. Very beautiful. 30 cts.

Khedive. S. silvery lavender, F. slightly deeper, with distinct orange beard. 33 in.

Madame Pacquette. Rich rosy claret, base of falls white. Large, widely expanded flower. The best of its color. 42 in. 25 cts.

Pallida Dalmatica. Perhaps the finest of all Irises. A flower of such beauty that any praise seems inadequate. Robust grower, 3½ feet tall, with fine, large leaves covered with a glaucous bloom. The flower-spikes are stout and branching, and the



Iris pallida Dalmatica

flowers of great substance, large, wide-spreading, and of exquisite form. The color is the softest and purest lavender imaginable, shading slightly deeper on the falls, with a wonderful satiny sheen. There is no finer sight in the flower-garden than a group of these Irises. The genuine variety is very scarce. Deliciously fragrant. 35 cts.

Plumeri. Medium-sized flower. S. old-rose with coppery shadings, F. rosy claret, shaded yellow. Distinct.

Queen of May. The first of the "pink" Irises, and still one of the best. Pale pinkish lilac. Very beautiful large flower. 40 in.

Variegata Section

Standards are of various shades of yellow.

Aurea. Large flowers of perfect form. Uniform rich chrome-yellow. The finest of its color. Large, luxuriant foliage. 25 cts.

Darius. S. Rich canary-yellow, F. light purple fading to wide border of cream, bright orange beard. Distinct and beautiful. Large flower.

Flavescens. A distinct species. Pale creamy yellow. Free-flowering and very sweet-scented. One of the finest for massing, especially with the whites and soft lavender sorts. Early.

Hector. S. straw-yellow, F. very deep velvety purple. Large flower of strikingly rich coloring. 30 in. 25 cts.

Idion. S. bright yellow, F. yellow splashed reddish brown.

Maori King. S. deep brilliant yellow, F. velvety crimson, with narrow gold margin. One of the most brilliant varieties on the list. Dwarf grower. 25 cts.

Monhassan. S. orange-yellow, F. maroon-black.

Princess of Teck. S. yellow suffused lavender, F. wine-red veined cream at base. Distinct. 30 cts.

Amoena, Neglecta, and

Plicata Sections

Innocenza. Ivory-white, with distinct yellow beard. Very delicate. 18 in. 25 cts.

Mrs. Horace Darwin. Pure white, slightly veined violet at the base of falls. Early. One of the most free-flowering of Irises.

Victorine. S. pure white, occasionally flecked violet at edge, F. deep violet-blue. An exquisite flower of very delicate formation. 30 cts.

Attraction. S. soft lavender-blue, F. deeper lavender-blue. Pretty.

Donna Maria. Uniform soft pale lilac, with distinct orange beard. Attractive. 25 cts.

Miss Maggie. S. silvery lavender, F. a slightly deeper shade.

Brooklyn. S. pearl-gray, with faintest flush of yellow, F. soft lavender. Large flower of very delicate coloring. 25 cts.

Delicatissima. S. deep lavender, faintly suffused white, F. white densely penciled and dotted lavender at edges. Very distinct.

Fairy. S. pure white, F. white faintly bordered pale lavender, stigmas light violet, beard deep orange, shading to white. Delightfully fragrant. One of the best whites. 28 in. 25 cts.

Mme. Chereau. Porcelain-white with a wide frill-like border of clear lavender-blue. One of the finest of Irises.

Mrs. G. Reuthe. Large flower. S. white, penciled palest lavender, F. white, frilled soft lavender. Very beautiful, soft coloring.



Iris Florentina, the Orris Root

Squalens Section

The standards are of clouded shades of bronze and fawn.

Dr. Bernice. S. clouded bronze, F. richest and most velvety crimson. Large and unusually beautiful. Late. 2 ft. 25 cts.

Gypsy Queen. S. lavender, suffused gold, F. rosy lilac, veined deeper, bright orange beard. 2 ft.

Jaquiniana. S. iridescent bronze. Long, drooping falls of deep wine-red. Large flowers of perfect form. The most beautiful Iris in this section. 30 in. 30 cts.

Lady Seymour. S. lavender flushed sulphur, F. deep lavender, netted white. 25 in.

Lord Grey. Fawn-color, very faintly suffused rose. Unusual coloring. 2 ft. 25 cts.

Miralba. S. rosy lilac, F. claret veined white; effect old-rose.

Murat. S. bright orange-yellow, F. rusty red, veined white. Small.

Shakespeare. S. clouded bronze, F. maroon, netted white. Large.

Intermediate Irises

These splendid new hybrids are intermediate in size between the tall bearded Irises and the dwarf sorts. They bloom in May, shortly before the true Germanicas, and have very large, fragrant flowers of fine form and lovely pure colors. Height averages about 15 in.

Dorothea. Milky white, suffused lavender. Very large. 35 cts.

Helge. S. soft lemon-yellow, F. slightly deeper. Fine. 50 cts.

Ingeborg. Lovely pure white; very large. 50 cts.

Walhalla. S. lavender-blue, F. rich purple. Very rich coloring. 50 cts.

FLORENTINA. This is the plant from whose roots the well-known "orris-root" perfume is made. It is a separate species, and, though far from new, is still the loveliest of white Irises. Mrs. Florence Morse Earle writes of it: "One of the noblest plants in the world. Its petals are truly hyaline, like snow-ice; like translucent white glass; and the indescribably beautiful drooping lines of the flower are such a contrast with the defiant erectness of the fresh green leaves. Small wonder it was the sacred flower of the Greeks." The blossoms are large and very fragrant, and make a beautiful combination with the dark-colored Germanica sorts that bloom at the same time. May. 2 feet.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS OF GERMAN IRISES

100 in 25 choice varieties, my selection	\$10 00
25 in 25 choice varieties, my selection	2 50
12 in 12 choice varieties, my selection	1 50

Iris Kaempferi · Japanese Iris

There is a prevalent idea that the Japanese Iris is hard to grow, but, with a little care it is as easily grown as any hardy plant. *Iris Kaempferi* are truly glorious flowers, overtopping all the other Irises in the opulent richness of their blooms; thick and heavy in texture, yet poised as lightly as tropical butterflies on the ends of their tall, flexible stems. There are rich deep violets, velvety purples, smooth wax-like whites, clarets, lilacs and lilac-pinks, with all the intermediate shades, not only in self-colors, but dotted and penciled and feathered and veined and splashed in patterns of the most intricate delicacy. It would seem that their only defect is their lack of fragrance. The three-petaled

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Gorgeous Japanese Iris

Japanese Iris, continued

flowers are perhaps the more refined and artistic, but the six-petaled ones are certainly the more imposing. The foliage is much longer and narrower than the German varieties, and stands erect in sheaves instead of spreading out in fans.

Japanese Irises are particularly adapted for planting in balanced groups or solid beds in the formal garden, because of their clean-cut, symmetrical outline, and in the mixed border they are second only to delphiniums in their season of bloom. An excellent plan is to plant gladioli between the clumps of Irises; the foliage is almost identical, and their seasons of bloom can be made to succeed each other with very satisfactory results. Comparatively little seems to have been done in this country toward naturalizing Japan Iris along the banks of ponds and streams, yet I see no reason why the most beautiful pictures could not be created in this way, providing the ground was well prepared before setting out the plants. Japanese Irises are splendid for cutting, being much less fragile than the German sorts. Cut them when the buds are starting to unfold. Late June and early July. 3 to 4½ ft.; space 18 in.

CULTURE.—The great error in the culture of Japanese Iris is to assume that the plants are aquatics. Though they relish any amount of moisture during their growing season, the crowns must be well above the water-level during the winter. Possibly the general misconception of their requirements has been due to reports of travelers from Japan who have seen them growing there in the flooded rice-fields, not knowing that in winter the water is entirely drained off. Therefore, in naturalizing them around ponds, see that they are not set so that water continuously stands around the roots. In ordinary gar-

dens, they can be grown with perfect success, providing the soil is rich and mellow and the surface around the plants is never allowed to become hard and baked. If a couple of thorough soakings can be given them before they come into bloom, so much the better, but even this is not necessary if proper care is taken to prevent evaporation by keeping the ground well stirred, or covered with a very heavy mulch. August and early September are the best times to plant them. If they cannot be set out before September 15, it is much better to delay planting until next spring, otherwise the roots will be pretty sure to be heaved out of the ground by the frost, and once they have been exposed to the winter air, the plants are practically done for. Japanese Irises look best in large, massive clumps, so it is well to leave them undivided for four or five years. They will increase much more rapidly if given a liberal amount of fertilizer, which is best applied according to the Japanese plan, by giving them a thick winter mulch of manure.

Ho-O-Jo (syn., Oriole). Six petals. Rich reddish purple with yellow blotches.

Osho-Kun. Intense deep violet-blue, the nearest approach to a true blue. Very beautiful. Six petals.

Renjo-no-tama. Very double, with fluted petals. White, with a wide border of soft lavender.

Sano-watashi. Six great fine white drooping petals. Primrose blotches radiating gracefully into the white. The most popular sort.

Shigo-no-uranami. Tall. Rich violet, white halo, radiating white lines. Six petals.

Kagaribi. Pearly white, densely traced and marbled soft violet. Exquisite. Six petals.

Zama-no-mori. Three immense, drooping falls. Pure white shaded toward the center with softest violet-blue, standards white, margined pale violet. The most beautiful three-petaled sort.

Mahogany. Deepest velvety carlet. One of the richest. Six petals. All Japan Irises 25 cts. each, \$2.50 per doz.

Iris Sibirica

The narrow, grass-like leaves and numerous very slender, graceful flower-stems distinguish the Siberian Iris from the other Iris families. The flowers are comparatively small, in form something between the German and Japanese sorts. They have a great deal of delicate charm, and are most



Iris Sibirica

Iris Sibirica, continued

useful both for cutting and for massing in the garden and along the banks of streams. They are hardy, increase rapidly, and will thrive in partial shade. *Orientalis*, and its white form, *Orientalis*, *Snow Queen*, are probably the most beautiful and satisfactory varieties. Neither is fragrant.

Orientalis (syn., *Sanguinea*). Finely formed flower of the most intense violet-blue,—in large masses a perfect sheet of dazzling color. The buds are enclosed in curious crimson spathe-valves. A splendid plant. Early June. 3 ft.; space 1 ft.

Orientalis, Snow Queen. A very lovely flower. Pure ivory-white with deep yellow blotches at the bases of the falls. Thick, waxy petals, equal to some of the best Japanese sorts. Similar in habit to *Orientalis*. 25 cts.

Some Iris Species

Below are four beautiful and distinct Irises, all of which are comparatively seldom seen in this country.

Aurea. Robust grower, 4 to 5 feet tall, with very long, curving leaves and branching flower-spikes. Large flowers of distinct shape, with thick, narrow petals of pure deep yellow. Very decorative for cutting. Prefers a rich, moist soil. Best planted in spring. A native of the Himalayas. 35 cts.

Cristata. The tiniest of Irises. A charming native species, with creeping stems, and exquisite crested flowers of a clear, rich lavender-blue, rising only a few inches from the dense mat of foliage. Ideal for the rock-garden or for edging the border in well-drained soil. Blooms in May. Space 6 in. 25 cts.

Fulva. Another native American Iris of unique coloring—rich coppery red flowers of curious form, coming the last of June. Leaves almost evergreen. Plant in well-drained soil. 18 in. 35 cts.

Ochroleuca (syn., *Orientalis gigantea*). A very noble Iris of form and habit similar to *Aurea*, but an even more vigorous grower, with large ivory-white blossoms, blotched with yellow at the base of the falls. Appropriately called the "Gold-banded Iris." Plant in spring. June and July. 5 ft.; space 2 ft. 35 cts.



Mertensia virginica, the exquisite Virginia Cowslip

Lathyrus latifolius · Perennial Pea

The best of low-growing herbaceous vines. Exactly like the annual sweet pea in habit, leaf, and individual flower, but the flowers of the perennial varieties are borne in clusters of eight or ten and are without fragrance. Its graceful, informal growth makes it ideal for climbing over old stumps, or rambling among rocks and low shrubs. And I do not see why some flower-gardener could not take the hint from Miss Jekyll, and use it in the border to train over plants that have passed their prime and are beginning to look unsightly, such as seeding flower-stalks of gypsophila, anchusa or delphinium.

White Pearl. This new variety is a splendid improvement over the old sorts, both in the size of the flowers and in the purity of their color. The big, snow-white, long-stemmed blooms are splendid for cutting, and keep appearing nearly all summer, beginning in June. 50 cts. each.

Mertensia

Virginia Cowslip; Bluebells

Virginica. "The very embodiment of the freshness of early spring. Leaves of a full, pale green, of a curious texture, smooth yet absolutely unreflecting. The flowers are in terminal clusters, richly filled; lesser clusters springing from the axils of the last few leaves and joining with topmost ones to form a gracefully drooping head. They are of a rare and beautiful quality of coloring hard to describe . . . a rainbow flower, of infinite variety and indescribable charm."—From "Wood and Garden," by Gertrude Jekyll.

Again it remains for the foreigner to appreciate one of our finest native wild flowers. Such praise from an authority like Miss Jekyll must awaken great expectations in every flower-lover, yet I think the *Mertensia* will satisfy them all. In delicacy of color alone it is unique; the blossoms open a pale pink, which quickly passes through lilac to clear blue, of wonderful softness of tone.

In its native state it is seen growing in friable, alluvial soil along streams, in places that are usually flooded for a short time in early spring. So in the border it should flourish in any deep mellow soil, where a good supply of moisture can be maintained while the plant is making its growth. Later in the summer, the whole plant dies off and disappears, remaining dormant until the next spring. During this period, it needs little water and during the whole of its growth it can stand partial shade, though this is by no means essential. In a favorable situation the plants will spread readily, forming large clumps which should remain undisturbed for at least four or five years. The *Mertensia* is most useful for naturalizing, and in the garden it is very charming, especially in connection with *Dicentra spectabilis* and the later Holland bulbs. Mrs. Frances King suggests combining it with that lovely tulip "Le Reve" and I have no doubt that the combination would be a most beautiful one. In the meadows along the Brandywine creek, near my nurseries, the *Mertensia* grows luxuriantly, and it is a welcome sight for any flower-lover to see the great sheets of it in bloom early in May. 12 to 18 in.; space 18 in.

Unless otherwise noted, all plants in this catalog 15 cts. each, \$1.50 per doz., \$10 per 100.

Monarda · Bergamot

Didyma. If the Bergamot or Bee-Balm is not quite so graceful in growth or rich in tint as the cardinal flower, nevertheless, next to that plant, it is the best perennial of its color;—rich glowing scarlet, that blazes out with surprising intensity from a background of dark green. And it has the advantage over the lobelia of being perfectly hardy, and easily grown in sun or partial shade. The flowers spring thickly from dry, rounded bracts, and are thinly tubular in form with fringed ends and projecting anthers. They are held upright on tall, leafy stems, and last surprisingly long, brightening the garden for many weeks in late July and August. Both flowers and leaves give out a pungent and very agreeable odor. The Monarda is one of our native wild flowers, and so of course is well adapted for naturalizing, and planting among shrubbery and evergreens. Should be divided every three years, as by that time the clumps are apt to grow thin toward the center. I offer the variety Cambridge Scarlet, which is said to be brighter in color than the old Didyma. Height 2½ to 3 ft.; space 18 in.

Fistulosa. Taller than the above, with soft lavender flowers. Splendid for naturalizing in very large masses, and excellent in the border.

Oenothera · Evening Primrose

Oenotheras are very beautiful plants, and should be far better known. All are perfectly hardy, and ask for no special attention beyond an abundance of sunlight. The flowers are of good size and unusual delicacy of texture, and though the individual blossoms last only a short time, they keep up a constant succession of bloom for nearly two months. Moreover, they furnish some of the finest shades of pure yellow to be found in the garden. In spite of their name, all the kinds offered below remain open during the day.

Fruticosa. One of the best of the tall sorts. Of good branching habit, 2 feet tall, with luxuriant leathery leaves and innumerable brilliant yellow, cup-shaped flowers, 1½ inches across, and slightly fragrant. I see no difference between this and the variety offered as Youngii. June to August. Space 1 ft.

Missouriensis is a semi-trailing plant with rather thin, light green leaves and immense cup-shaped flowers, 4 inches across, of a pure lemon-yellow. The petals are of the most diaphanous texture, and in the center of the blossom are a three-pronged anther and a cluster of stamens with a curious web-like mass of pollen. A most unusual and very lovely flower. A large mass of plants will fairly cover the ground with the blooms, and look delightful as an informal edging to borders of taller subjects. Planted in the rock-garden, the prostrate stems will hang over the boulders with charming effect. "The English Flower Garden" recommends this variety as one of the finest of hardy plants. June and July. 8 to 12 in.; space 1 ft.

Speciosa. Of graceful, spreading habit, 18 inches tall. The flowers, slightly larger than those of Fruticosa, are a beautiful pure white with a small green center; very fragrant at night. They combine well with almost every flower in the garden, and are excellent for cutting. The plants spread so quickly that a group of two or three soon becomes a large mass. June and July. Space 1 ft.



Oriental Poppies

Papaver orientale

Oriental Poppy

When the hairy, four-lobed calyx of the Poppy bud splits and drops off, the opening flower is one of the most curious sights of the garden. Each petal has been so creased and folded and packed in its casing so tightly that it seems impossible it will ever open at all, much less become smooth and free from markings. But open it does, and in a few hours there is a gorgeous, bowl-shaped blossom 4 or 5 inches across, with a center of rich purple-black stamens, and a big rounded stigma, with a flat velvety top. Even a small clump of these huge flowers, rising on tall, stiff stems from their luxuriant mass of leafage, is an inspiring sight, while a long border of poppies alone fairly takes one's breath away. No plant is so bold and striking in form and color, and none makes a wider appeal. Many visitors to a nursery will pass by all the more delicate flowers with an indifferent glance, only to become wildly enthusiastic when they encounter the Oriental Poppy.

The original species of *Papaver orientale* was of such a glaring shade of brick-red that it clashed with almost every other color. Now, however, there are so many new hybrids in fine tones of salmon-pink, light and dark red, and even white, that we have the material for making all sorts of beautiful pictures, both in the garden and in the shrubbery border. Some of the salmon-pink varieties combine charmingly with irises like Pallida Dalmatica or Mme.

Unless otherwise noted, all plants in this catalog 15 cts. each, \$1.50 per doz., \$10 per 100
Six plants sold at the dozen rate. All plants listed at 25 cts. each are \$2.50 per doz., \$15 per 100

Papaver orientale, continued

Chereau, both in style of growth and color of bloom. I have already advised inter-grouping Poppies with gypsophila, so as to fill in the space when the former are dormant. Or annuals may be set out close by as soon as the Poppies have finished blooming. In this case it is well to make room for the newcomers by cutting back the mass of Poppy leaves. I have the authority of no less a person than the Rev. E. A. Bowles for saying that this will not injure the Poppies and often has the effect of encouraging a few extra blooms to appear in the fall. When using Poppies in house decoration, cut them as soon as the green calyx commences to split open, and they will last in water for several days.

CULTURE. Toward August the Poppy's leaves turn brown, and finally die off altogether, *and it cannot be too often stated that during this period the Poppy is dormant, and in the proper condition for shipping and planting.* Later in the fall it sends out new leaves which stay green all winter and start in growing as soon as the weather grows warm. Therefore, plant your Poppies in August or early September; if set out at any other time it must be in the early spring, and then it is necessary to use pot-grown plants. I supply these, but do not particularly recommend them and will not ship them after April 15. Poppies will thrive in any sort of soil, providing they get full sun, and when once established will grow and bloom for many years with no need of dividing. May 15 to early June. Height 2 to 4 ft.; space 18 in.

Mrs. Perry. Clear, bright salmon-pink, with small, dark red blotches at the base of the petals. The largest variety of its color.

Mary Studholme. Soft salmon-pink of a silvery tone. Very delicate.

Goliath. Brilliant scarlet. The largest of Poppies, sometimes 10 inches across. Tall.

Jeannie Mawson. Very neat, compact grower. Flowers perfect in form, purest salmon-pink, of medium-size. One of the finest.

Beauty of Livermere. Deep blood-red; very rich and striking. Medium height. Flowers large and widely opened.

Mahony. Very deep maroon-red, a color that reminds one of the darkest of Oxheart cherries. A most unusual and beautiful flower; very effective with the whites and light pinks. Medium height.

Silberblick. Bright orange-scarlet with white stamens and white blotches at the base of the petals. Very distinct.

Silver Queen. Low, slender grower with large flowers of a cool silvery white. Very pretty, suggesting an annual Shirley Poppy. Quite distinct from Perry's White.

Masterpiece. Very large blooms; soft, satiny salmon-pink, shot with gray. A unique and beautiful flower. Tall. 50 cts. each.

Perry's White. One of the best novelties of the last few years. Fine, tall grower, with large blooms of a pure paper-white, with reddish black blotches at the base of petals. In effect it is startlingly black and white,—a flower that might have come out of a Japanese print. Not only curious but extremely decorative and handsome. 50 cts.

Semiplenum. The nearest approach to a double Poppy. Loose, graceful flower, with several rows of petals; bright orange-scarlet.

All Poppies, except where noted, 25 cts. each, \$2.50 per doz.

Hardy Phlox

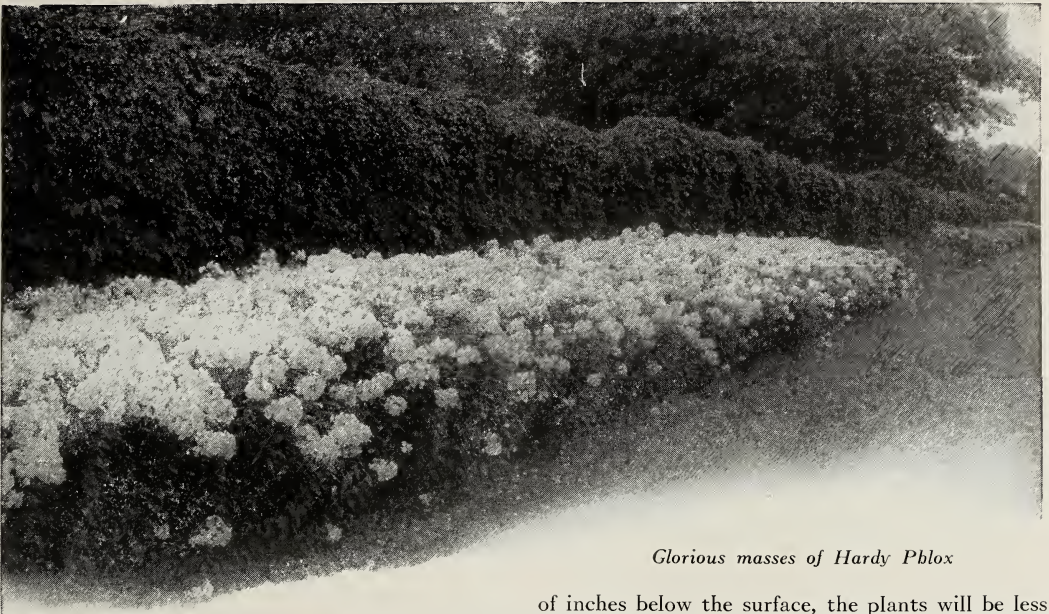
The mainstay of the garden in late summer and early fall. It would be hard to imagine our gardens without the Phlox, not only because of its invaluable place in the sequence of continuous bloom, but also because of its value in composing color-effects, where it probably has a greater range of usefulness than any other perennial. This is due to its big, erect panicles of bloom, that can be massed with superb effect; to its long blooming period, and to the purity and intensity of its numberless different shades of red, pink, and purple, not to mention the splendid white varieties that are, perhaps, the most useful of all as peacemakers between the other colors.

Considering the richness of the present-day Phlox in salmon and scarlet shades, it seems a little strange that the older sorts were invariably white or a dull washy magenta. And they were also tall and lank and small-flowered, while the modern sorts are sturdy, compact growers, with trusses and individual flowers of splendid size. Yet in spite of the wonderful improvements in size and color, there have been, and still are, many sorts introduced that are glaring and offensive in color—inexcusably so as contrasted with the incomparable shades of such kinds as Elisabeth Campbell or Sigrid Arnoldson. Therefore, in offering the following list, I have rigorously pruned it of all undesirable tones of the magenta or amaranth class, and also avoided offering kinds that are differently named but identical in appearance.

In the garden, a long border of Phlox gives a splendid effect. Planted in this way, a progression of shades, from palest to darkest, is better than a number



Hardy Phlox, Frau Antoine Buchner



Glorious masses of Hardy Phlox

Hardy Phlox, continued

of contrasts. See that the brilliant colors like G. A. Strohlelein are kept away from the purplish tones. The coppery reds are the hardest to arrange; perhaps they are at their best with white, with plenty of green foliage to back them. In the mixed border, clumps of white Phlox are never amiss. Among the colored sorts, the following combinations will, I think, prove attractive, either in the garden or for cutting, and I hope they will start flower-gardeners thinking up other and better ones for themselves.

A group of delicate colors: Elisabeth Campbell, Eugene Danzanvilliers, Mme. Paul Dutrie, and Frau Antoine Buchner; or simply Elisabeth Campbell and Eugene Danzanvilliers.

From salmon-pink to scarlet: Elisabeth Campbell, Loki, Gen. Van Heutz, Baron Van Dedem, and G. A. Strohlelein.

Brilliant scarlets: Coquelicot, G. A. Strohlelein, with Independence.

Rich rose-reds and pinks: Sigrid Arnoldson, Goliath, Rijnstroom, and R. P. Struthers or Fernand Cortez.

Purples: Le Mahdi, E. Danzanvilliers, and Anton Buchner, or Le Mahdi, Rosenberg, Widar, and Eugene Danzanvilliers.

Selma and Compte Von Hochberg combine well, and also Goliath, Europa and Hervor.

Most Phloxes are more or less fragrant; some, like Mme. Paul Dutrie, are unusually sweet.

CULTURE. Phloxes will stand considerable neglect and still make a fairly good showing, but never starve your plants if you want to see them at their best. Prepare the ground deeply, don't hesitate to apply plenty of manure, give the plants an extra help during the summer by digging in a handful of bone-meal, and see that the soil around the roots never gets dry and baked. September is the best time to plant Phlox, but any time during the spring or fall will do. If set so that the eyes are a couple

of inches below the surface, the plants will be less likely to suffer from drought. Plant the dwarf sorts 10 inches apart, the taller ones 18 inches. Lift and divide every third or fourth year, as after that the flowers will grow smaller unless the soil is continuously enriched. As soon as the flower-head begins to look shabby, break it off just below the blooms. Then give the plants a good soaking with water, and in a few weeks a new crop of side shoots will carry the bloom well into the fall. I would not advise pinching back before the plants have flowered. Mildew, which sometimes appears in wet seasons, can be checked by dusting the leaves when wet with powdered sulphur. Spraying every three weeks with bordeaux will prevent the fungous disease that occasionally blackens and dries up the lower leaves.

Four Fine New Phloxes

America. Pale, clear pink, with a large deep crimson eye. An improvement over the variety Selma. Large flowers. 50 cts. each.

Sommerkleid. Sent out by the introducer of Elisabeth Campbell. I have not yet seen this variety in bloom but the flowers are described as pale flesh, of enormous size. 50 cts.

Thor. Medium height. Very large flowers of the richest salmon-pink; a tone midway between Loki and the salmon-reds like Gen. Van Heutz. A magnificent Phlox. 50 cts.

W. C. Egan. Rather dwarf grower with very large trusses and individual flowers. Color a delightful shade of pale, cool pink, with a deep cherry-pink eye. In tone it resembles Mme. Paul Dutrie, but is a purer pink, with less lilac. 50 cts.

General List

WHITE VARIETIES

Frau Antoine Buchner. Undoubtedly the finest white. Compact grower, with very large massive flowers. Midseason.

Independence. Fine early white, of good branching habit.

Jeanne d'Arc. The most satisfactory tall, late white.

Unless otherwise noted, all plants in this catalog 15 cts. each, \$1.50 per doz., \$10 per 100

White Phlox, continued

Tapis Blanc. An invaluable Phlox, growing only 6 inches tall, with large, branching panicles and individual flowers of better size than any other white. Ideal for edging. 25 cts.

Miss Lingard. This variety belongs to the early-flowering *Suffruticosa* section, and is distinguished by its polished, deep green foliage. A tall grower, with medium-sized pure white flowers with a faint lilac eye. Beginning in May, it blooms for over two months. A splendid plant, particularly fine for massing. Perhaps the most generally satisfactory of Phloxes.

RED VARIETIES

Comte Von Hochberg. Deep velvety claret; the finest of the very dark sorts. 25 cts.

Sigrid Arnoldson. Rich, deep, cerise-crimson; to my mind the finest color among Phloxes. Tall, strong grower. 25 cts.

Rosenberg. Very brilliant magenta, with darker eye; one of the very fine Phloxes of its color, and in combination with the whites, a very effective sort.

Goliath. Unusually tall grower, $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 feet. Large trusses of brilliant light crimson, with deeper eye. Very striking. 25 cts.

Fernand Cortez. Very deep rose-red, overlaid with a curious bronzy sheen.

Coquelicot. Intense light coppery scarlet, with deep red eye. It was the first Phlox of its color, and is probably still the best. Dr. Konigshofer, supposedly an improvement, is exactly the same as Coquelicot. Branching grower.

G. A. Strohlein. Brilliant deep orange-scarlet, fading to cerise. Extremely large flowers. One of the finest of Phloxes. 25 cts.

Baron Van Dedem. Bright salmon-scarlet, fading to cherry-red. Very showy flower, and a strong grower.

Gen. Van Heutz. Rich salmon-red, with star-shaped center of white. This white center is very variable, however; sometimes it is entirely absent, in which case the flower is quite similar to Baron Van Dedem, though of a rather more pinkish tone. Branching grower. At its best a very distinct Phlox. 25 cts.

PINK VARIETIES

Mme. Paul Dutrie. Very delicate pale cool pink, of a lilac tone, like some orchids; an exquisite shade. Fine, large flowers; tall grower.

Hervor. Soft lilac-pink of a tone nearly approaching old-rose, with a white, star-shaped center. A lovely variety; fine in masses. Large. 25 cts.

R. P. Struthers. Pure, clear pink, with a deep cherry-red eye. A fine old variety.

Rijnstroom. Uniform rich rose-pink; the finest Phlox of its color. Flowers and trusses of exceptional size. 25 cts.

Elisabeth Campbell. This variety has rapidly become the most popular of Phloxes, and with good reason. Rather dwarf grower, with very large flowers. Color soft warm pink, of a salmon tone, shaded white toward the center, with an inconspicuous dark eye. The finest pink of its tone among hardy plants. 25 cts.

Loki. Deep, brilliant salmon-pink, with a crimson eye; slightly lighter in tone than the new Thor. Compact, low grower; late. A fine Phlox, that seems to be little known. 25 cts.

PURPLE VARIETIES

Selma. Tall grower. Large flowers of a soft pale rose-pink, with a large crimson center. Beautiful.

Hanny Pfeiderer. White, washed with pale pink, deepening to a cherry-red center. Dwarf, compact grower. Extra-large flowers. Very delicate color.

Asia. Very large trusses; pale lilac, with a deep crimson center.

Crepuscule. Extra-large flowers, shading from a deep crimson center through lilac-rose to a white edge. Distinct. 25 cts.

Le Mahdi. Rich reddish purple, with metallic reflections. Toward evening, or by artificial light, the color changes to a deep slaty violet. Very fine.

Eugene Danzanvilliers. Soft lavender, with lighter center. Strong, tall grower, with large flowers. An invaluable variety.

Widar. Light reddish purple, with large, white center. Very striking. 25 cts.

Representative Collection

These ten Phloxes include a fine sort of every distinct shade. Complete collection, \$1.50.

Comte Von Hochberg	Elisabeth Campbell
Sigrid Arnoldson	Selma
Coquelicot	Rijnstroom
Frau Antoine Buchner	Eugene Danzanvilliers
Mme. Paul Dutrie	Le Mahdi

Phlox divaricata

Perry's Variety. This is an improved form of our native *Divaricata Canadensis*, and has proved to be the most valuable of early-blooming perennials. It is a good, robust grower, 12 to 18 inches in height, with very large panicles of flowers of a delightful soft lavender, a shade that is unusually fine in masses. It is ideal for combining with May-flowering tulips, in shades of pale yellow and old-rose, or with irises like *Flavescens*, and Mrs. Alan Gray. It can easily be naturalized, and best of all, it has the remarkable habit of blooming steadily from the latter part of April to the latter part of June. 25 cts.

Unless otherwise noted, all plants in this catalog, 15 cts. each, \$1.50 per doz., \$10 per 100

Six plants sold at the dozen rate. All plants listed at 25 cts. each are \$2.50 per doz., \$15 per 100



Effective use of Peonies



"A wealth of globed Peonies"

Peonies

If one may trust to his judgment in reading the signs of the times, it would seem that the day of the Peony had surely arrived. Now that every little nursery is beginning to catalog some roots, and every little florist to handle some blooms; when hundreds of acres of flowers are cut every year for Decoration Day; when we have "Peony experts" and "Peony specialists" galore, and an American Peony Society, with a special nomenclature committee and a testing-ground under Government auspices at Cornell University, with another about to be established at Washington,—in view of all this it seems to me that we can hardly say that the Peony is "a much-neglected plant," as some growers are still cheerfully informing us.

If the general public is still satisfied with mixed pinks and whites (and I don't think it is) there is certainly a limited group of connoisseurs who scan the latest lists and exchange and collect the latest novelties with all the ardor of a book-lover on the chase for rare first editions. Yet I think this incipient Peony boom is no mere "craze;" it is simply the growing appreciation of a plant that is worthy of it in every way. Even the apparently high prices paid for some varieties have a justification in the fact that the Peony is so hopelessly slow to increase; that of many varieties there is comparatively little stock in existence. But whether one pays twenty-five cents for a plant of Queen Victoria, or twenty-five dollars for one of the almost mythical Lady Alexandra Duff, he is sure of getting something that will be a certain source of delight throughout his lifetime, and perhaps his children's as well.

The improved Peony is a comparatively recent development. Improbable as it may seem, all the infinitely varied double sorts of today (with the exception of the Officialis types) are descended from the single white *Paeonia albiflora*, a native of Siberia. Introduced into Europe about the beginning of the nineteenth century, it soon found its way to France, where it was developed and improved by a group of enthusiastic amateurs, and later by the famous nurseries of Dessert and Lemoine. The varieties sent out by the earlier Frenchmen form the

backbone of every collection of today; those of Lemoine and Dessert though the finest of all Peonies, are still very rare and hard to obtain.

In America, some notable Peonies have been originated by amateurs like Messrs. Richardson, Terry, and Hollis, but it is largely through the efforts of growers such as Mr. B. H. Farr, Mr. Shaylor, Mr. George Peterson and the Good & Reese Co., that the present great interest in Peonies has arisen.

The famous English nursery of Kelway & Sons has originated some almost perfect varieties, but unfortunately no scruples seem to have kept the Kelways from sending out several different sorts under one name. However, they were by no means the only sinners in this respect; substitution used to be the usual thing, until both by ignorance and intention, Peony nomenclature became an almost hopeless muddle. We should feel proud that it remained for the American Peony Society to straighten out all this, and from a welter of synonyms, to separate the proper names for the really distinct varieties. It now has this task nearly accomplished, so that collecting Peonies is today a surer and much simplified process.

The time-honored and ugly way of growing Peonies in stiff clumps in the middle of the lawn seems happily to be on the wane. Beautiful and effective ways of using them are many; to my mind, their full beauty is brought out best when planted in long, separate borders, arranged in sweeping curves against a background of dense evergreens or shrubs. If such borders can be made near the house, so much the better. They are also very charming bordering each side of a broad grass walk, or in separate formal beds. In the mixed border, they seem to me more attractive in single, fairly isolated clumps, rather than in masses; in fact, I think that very broad masses of Peonies anywhere hardly reveal the true form and character of the plant. But, however planted, the Peony is a thing of beauty in itself, and makes a splendid mass of green long after it has finished blooming. In arranging color-effects, keep the deeper pinks and reds away from the more delicate shades. For massing, the whites are probably the most effective.

Peonies, continued

Few persons know the variety and richness of the Peony's fragrance. It ranges from the disagreeable poppy-like scent of the singles, and a few of the doubles, through the cloying sweetness of Marie Jacquin, and the odd, spicy perfume of Humei and Lamartine, to the delicious rose-scent of such kinds as Marie Lemoine and Baroness Schroeder.

CULTURE. Peonies appreciate rich soil, but dislike fresh manure, as this will often cause the plants to rot. Therefore, if manure is used, see that it is very well rotted and thoroughly mixed with the soil. If such is not to be had, then bone-meal of any good mixed fertilizer will give excellent results. More important than the matter of fertilizer is to have the ground deeply dug and mellow, and to conserve the moisture by frequent surface stirrings or a thick mulch, as a prolonged drought is very hard on a young Peony, particularly if it comes before it has bloomed.

Peonies are best planted in September, so they can make some root-growth before cold weather and so be more likely to blossom the next season. However, they may be set out as long as the ground stays open, and I would not discourage spring planting, by any means, providing it is done before the second week in April. Protect the plants for the first winter with a covering of stable litter; after that they require no winter protection whatever,—in fact a heavy winter mulch sometimes results in flowerless plants the next season.

Another reason for their not flowering is deep planting,—Peonies should be set so that the eyes are only 2 to 3 inches below the surface of the ground. As a rule, Peonies bloom naturally in clusters, but if one prefers a single large flower on a stem, the small side buds can be removed as soon as they form, leaving only the large terminal one to develop.

Peonies may be planted in partial shade, and though they usually do not bloom quite so freely, the colors will be even richer, as they are always bleached to a certain extent by the sun. Therefore, to have them at their best, they should be picked when the bud shows color and allowed to develop in water in a shady room. Treated thus, the blooms will be larger, the colors better, and their lifetime much longer. It is better not to cut any blooms until the second year, or the plants are apt to be weakened.

Peonies are troubled by no diseases, and by only one insect, the rose-beetle or rose-bug, which is a serious pest in comparatively few localities. It is best controlled by hand-picking. With good soil and good care Peonies seldom need dividing and resetting under ten years. Allow a space of at least 2½ feet for each plant.

List of Varieties

My list is a comparatively small one, but I have chosen it with some definite aims in view. I think everyone who has seen a very extensive collection of Peonies will have noticed the surprisingly large number of undesirable shades—violent magentas, raw aniline pinks, and faded lilacs. It is only because the general public still has little or no color-sense that such varieties are not immediately discarded. Also, unfortunately, some of the best Peonies in size and form are some of the worst in color. Therefore, in planning my list I have tried to steer clear of offensive shades, and still keep a wide variety of coloring; and I have also arranged the list so that in every shade there are both expensive and moderate-priced sorts of first-class quality.

Most persons are familiar with red, pink, and white Peonies, but comparatively few know the lovely cream and yellow shades, and fewer still the exquisite varieties in those paler shades of pink that, for want of better names, we call shell, blush, or flesh. My descriptions are mostly based on those of the American Peony Society, with such changes as I thought would render their terms more comprehensible to the average flower-gardener.

As has been stated by other growers, it is only superficially accurate and not at all fair to the retail customer for Peonies to be classified arbitrarily on the basis of their being "one" or "two years" old; their growth is not uniform enough to grade them thus. The plants I send out are all robust and healthy, and, whatever their age, should have every chance of blooming the first season if planted in September. Customers are generally warned not to expect much in the way of flowers for the first couple of years, but in this matter a great deal depends on the quality of the stock. For instance, last season I had fine typical blooms on two-thirds of my block of first-year plants. It is of course true, however, that many kinds sometimes produce single or semi-double flowers the first summer.

Peonies are classified as follows:

Single. Those with a single row of wide guard-petals, and a center of pollen-bearing stamens.

Semi-double. Those with several rows of wide petals and a center of stamens and partially transformed petaloids.

Anemone. The stamens are all transformed into short, narrow petals, forming a round cushion in the center of the flower.

Crown. In this type, wide petals are developed in the center of the flower, forming a high crown, with the narrow short petals forming a collar around it. Often the guards and crown are one color, and the collar another, or a lighter shade.

Bomb. The next step, in which all the center petals are uniformly wide, approaching the guards, but distinctly differentiated from them, forming a globe-shaped center, without collar or crown.

Semi-rose. Petals all uniformly wide, but are loosely built, with a few pollen-bearing stamens visible or nearly concealed.

Rose. The process of doubling is completed; all stamens are fully transformed into evenly arranged wide petals, similar to the guards, forming a perfect, rose-shaped bloom.

WHITE VARIETIES

Albatre. Rose type. Perhaps the finest of white Peonies. Very large, full, globular rose type, of exquisite form. Pure ivory-white, center petals edged with a tiny thread-like line of crimson. Vigorous grower; tall, yet compact. Fragrant. Midseason. I see no difference between this and Avalanche. \$1.75.

Festiva maxima. Rose type. Very large, sometimes 7 inches across; full rose type, with very broad petals. Pure milk-white, prominently flecked crimson in the center. Very tall, strong grower and free bloomer. The earliest white. A grand old variety, which is still the most popular of Peonies and probably the best all-round white in existence. Very fragrant. 50 cts.

Baroness Schroeder. Rose type. An exquisite tinted white, one of Kelway's finest introductions and still comparatively scarce. Very large, rose type, beautifully formed, with high-built center. Faintest blush, fading to cream-white. Vigorous, tall grower and free bloomer. Very fragrant. Midseason. \$2.50.

White Peonies, "continued

Couronne d'Or. Semi-rose type. Very full and compact. Pure white, lighted up by a ring of partly concealed yellow stamens encircling the tufted central petals, which are slightly penciled crimson. Medium height, fine robust grower. One of the best late whites. Fragrant. 75 cts. each.

Marie Jacquin (syn., Bridesmaid, and Water-Lily). Semi-rose type. A most beautiful and distinct variety. Very large, semi-double. Blush-white, opening pure milk-white, with broad, incurved petals showing an open center filled with yellow stamens, like a water-lily. Very distinct, powerful fragrance. Plants will send up single flowers until well established but these are hardly less beautiful. Medium height, strong robust grower, and fine bloomer. I cannot speak too highly of this lovely Peony, which I wonder is not far better known. 75 cts.

Marie Lemoine. Rose type. Very large flowers; compact, broad and massive. Ivory-white, shaded cream toward the center, with an occasional line of crimson. Rather low grower, but with sturdy leaf-stems that make it fine for cutting. The best very late white, blooming after Couronne d'Or. Deliciously fragrant. 75 cts.

Whitleyi (syn., Queen Victoria). Bomb type. This is the most familiar of the older whites, and the one most often seen growing around old farm-houses and in city yards. It is still an excellent low-priced sort. Flowers of medium size, loose bomb type. On opening, guards are bluish-white, bomb sulphur-white, fading later to a uniform pure white, with slight flecks of crimson in center. Good grower and free bloomer; stems apt to be rather weak. 25 cts.

RED VARIETIES

Adolph Rousseau. Semi-double. Large, with broad petals. Deep garnet-red, with metallic reflections, a shade of great richness. Tall, vigorous grower; dark foliage, veined red. Generally gives single flowers for the first year or two. Probably the finest dark red next to M. Martin Cahuzac. \$2.

Anemonæflora rubra. Anemone. Medium size, distinct anemone-shape. Brilliant amaranth. Strong, tall grower and free bloomer. Midseason. 50c.

Delachei. Rose type. Large, medium compact. Deep velvety crimson, fading to amaranth. Medium height, strong grower and free bloomer. The best dark red of moderate price. A very satisfactory Peony. Fragrant. 50 cts.

Felix Crousse. Bomb. Very large, typical bomb, with round, compact center, and broad guard-petals. Intensely brilliant cherry-red, with fiery reflex. One of the most dazzling of Peonies, especially when newly opened; when at all faded the color is not so attractive. Fine, robust grower and free bloomer, of medium height, with very leafy stems. Fragrant. Midseason. 75 cts.

M. Martin Cahuzac. Semi-rose type. Large, globular, with massive, rounded petals. Very deep, lustrous maroon-red, with blackish reflex. By far the darkest of all Peonies, possessing a color of most unusual and beautiful tone. It is a free bloomer and a wonderfully robust grower, with dark red stems and very dark luxuriant foliage. One of the finest. \$4.

Louis Van Houtte. Semi-rose type. Medium size, deep crimson, with silvery tips, fading to a purplish tone. Late. Fragrant. A showy variety. 35 cts.

Pottsii. Semi-rose type. Loose, semi-rose type, with yellow stamens. Dark garnet-red, with purplish reflex. Fragrant. One of the best early reds. 50 cts.



Type of large-flowering Peony

Rubra superba. Rose type. This variety, originated by Mr. Richardson, of Massachusetts, is a most valuable Peony, as it blooms when nearly all the others have gone. Large, full rose type, without stamens. Uniform rich deep crimson. Fragrant. A very fine flower. It gives very few blooms for the first two or three years; after that it blossoms well. 75 cts.

DEEP PINK VARIETIES

Alexander Dumas. Crown type. Large. Bright rose-pink, with scattered narrow petals of white, chamois and salmon in the collar. An unusually free bloomer. Fragrant. Very early. 50 cts.

Duchess of Teck. Rose type. Large, globular rose type, with incurved center petals. Brilliant rose-pink, edges of petals fading to a silvery tone. The flowers are of great substance, and unusual lasting quality, continuing to unfold after they have apparently attained full size. Tall, strong grower. Midseason. A very fine Peony that should be better known. \$1.

Edulis superba. Crown type. Next to Umbellata rosea the earliest of Peonies. Large, flat, crown type. Rich rose-pink, with slight silvery reflex. Very fragrant. A strong, upright grower and a splendid bloomer. The best moderate-priced pink, and, on the whole, one of the best all-round Peonies. 35 cts.

Humei. Rose type. Very large, opening flat. Bright cherry-pink, petals tipped silvery. This is a familiar variety in many old gardens. At its best it is very handsome, but the stems are so weak that if not staked they will sprawl about in every direction. Very distinct cinnamon fragrance. Tall and very late. 35 cts.

Mme. Ducel. Typical bomb. Very large; guard-petals very broad, center petals narrow, dense, and incurved, giving the flower a distinct resemblance to a chrysanthemum. The color is a uniform rich lilac-pink with a silvery reflex. Medium height; vigorous grower. Early midseason. Very striking. 75 cts.

Deep Pink Peonies, continued

Mme. Geissler. Rose type. Immense, full, globular. Silvery rose-pink, shading deeper at the base of petals. Fine bloomer and strong grower. Very fragrant. Stems somewhat weak. Early mid-season. 85 cts.

Modeste Guerin. Bomb type. Probably the finest deep pink. Very large; solid deep rich rose, of perfect form. Robust grower of medium height, and a free bloomer. Fragrant and very lasting. A beautiful Peony. 75 cts.

PALE PINK VARIETIES

Albert Crousse. Bomb type. Large, flat, compact, with very dense, even petalage. Pale, clear, shell-pink. Very fragrant. Excellent in habit and blooming qualities. Late. There is no finer light pink Peony. \$1.50.

Asa Gray. Semi-rose type. Large and symmetrical. Pale flesh-pink, overspread with a deeper shade, as if dusted on in minute dots. Fragrant and of good height and habit. A very distinct and beautiful Peony. \$1.

Eugenie Verdier. Semi-rose type. Very large, flat type, with loose gracefully arranged petals. A lovely shade of cool, pale pink, toning to palest lilac, center flecked crimson; fades to almost white. Fragrance very distinct. Very tall, robust grower; stems somewhat drooping. Midseason. Unusually lovely. \$1.

Faust. Crown type. Flowers in large clusters, medium size, globular. Guard-petals and crown flesh-pink, collar of narrow sulphur-white petals. Very free bloomer, of medium height. Attractive moderate-priced variety. 35 cts.

Grandiflora. Rose type. The finest of very late Peonies. Tall, strong grower of informal rose type, with immense flat blooms, deliciously fragrant. The color is a very lovely shade of soft flesh-pink, fading to blush-white. Invaluable. \$2.

Humea carnea. Rose type. Large, loosely built. Light clear pink. An attractive fluffy flower. Fragrant. Midseason. 35 cts.

Lamartine (syn., *Gigantea*). Rose type. A wonderful flower; one of the largest of Peonies. Immense, compact, flat blooms. Silvery lilac-pink of great delicacy, fading to nearly white. Tall grower and free bloomer, with distinct, spicy fragrance. Midseason. Should be staked. \$1.

La Tulipe. Rose type. Very large, globular. Blush-white, fading to creamy white, with crimson flecks in the center. The great charm of La Tulipe is its opening buds, which are streaked on the outside with crimson. Tall, strong grower and free bloomer. Late midseason. 75 cts.

Marguerite Gerande. Semi-rose type. Large, convex blooms of perfect form, developing into a crown with stamens. A delicious shade of softest salmon-pink, fading to cream, slightly flecked deep crimson. The flowers are of great substance and distinct from any other Peony. Fine, vigorous grower, and free bloomer. Late. \$1.50.

Mathilde de Roseneck. Rose type. Large, globular, compact, with very broad outer petals. Soft clear pink, shaded cream, and splashed crimson in the center. A beautiful late variety with particularly tall, stiff stems. Fragrant. 75 cts.

Mlle. Leonie Calot (syn., M. Charles Leveque). Rose type. Large, typical rose type, of fine form. Very delicate rose-white, center shading deeper, with slight carmine tips. A very fine variety, though of rather weak, spreading habit. Late midseason. 75c.



Rudbeckia purpurea (see page 37)

Pale Pink Varieties, continued

Mme. Emile Callee. Rose type. Mrs. Frances King considers this the most exquisite of all Peonies, and I think many persons will agree with her. Large salver-shaped blossoms, with petals slightly incurved. Pale shell-pink, fading to milk-white; a shade of the utmost delicacy and of a rare opalescent quality impossible to describe. Medium height. Strong, free bloomer. Late. \$1.25.

M. Hippolyte Dellille. Rose type. Very large, flat rose type. Pale silvery pink, lighter in the center. Late. Of medium height and very fragrant. A Peony of particularly loose and graceful form. 75 cts.

Pasteur. Large, delicately formed, salver-shaped flowers. Faintest blush-white, passing to milk-white, center petals shaded creamy yellow at base. A very rare variety of indescribable charm and loveliness. Tall, strong grower. Midseason. \$2.50.

YELLOW AND VARIEGATED

Duchesse de Nemours. Bomb type. Medium size. On opening, guard petals are white and center pale sulphur-yellow; later the flower changes to pure white with no crimson flecks. An almost indispensable Peony, coming slightly later than *Festiva maxima*. Its half-open buds are wonderfully beautiful. 50c.

Solfaterre. Bomb type. The best of the yellow Peonies. Large, medium, compact, later developing a crown. Guard-petals milk-white, center pale lemon, fading to cream. Medium height; spreading habit. Fragrant. A Peony of delightful delicacy of coloring. Try grouping it with pale blue delphiniums. Midseason. 75 cts.

Jeanne d'Arc. Bomb type. Large, globular, developing a crown. Guards and center petals rose-pink, collar creamy white shaded sulphur, center occasionally flecked crimson. Strong; medium height; free bloomer. Midseason. Very beautiful, in its contrasted colors. 50 cts.

Yellow and Variegated Peonies, continued

Mme. de Vetry. Crown type. A superb Peony, that should be much better known. Very large, compact, high-crown type. Crown and broad guard-petals soft cool pink, collar creamy yellow, center splashed deep crimson. An exquisite color-combination which a visitor remarked suggested "peaches and cream." Very fragrant. A tall, strong grower with distinct, finely cut foliage. Midseason. 65 cts.

Philomele. Anemone. Medium size. Guard-petals deep rose, anemone center of dense, narrow petals, amber-yellow changing to cream; as the flower develops, a crown appears, bright pink, edged dark crimson. Very strong grower. Fragrant. A free bloomer. Midseason. Most unique and beautiful. 75 cts.

Umbellata rosea (re-named by mistake Sarah Bernhardt). Rose type. The earliest bloomer of all and one of the prettiest and most satisfactory Peonies grown. Large, loose flowers of very graceful and decorative form. Guard-petals clear rose-pink, center shading lighter, with many narrow cream-white petals and occasionally a salmon tuft, a coloring of charming freshness and delicacy. Very tall, sturdy grower; free bloomer, and exceptionally fragrant. 75 cts.

Pæonia officinalis rubra plena

This is the native Peony of southern Europe, from which comparatively few forms have been developed. We have had it impressed on us lately that this is a very inferior kind. It has been referred to contemptuously as "Grandmother's Peony" and dismissed as being rank in color and unpleasant in scent, but on the contrary I assert that its perfume is most agreeable, and that when newly opened, it has a richer shade of crimson than can be found in any other Peony. The flowers are compact, globular and of large size, though the plants are low and spreading, hardly more than 18 inches tall. It has the slight disadvantage of turning brown earlier in the summer than the tall sorts, but, all in all, it is a grand old variety and should not soon be discarded. Blooms in the middle of May. Rather slow to increase. Space 18 in. 25 cts.

*Pæonia tenuifolia**

Although nominally this species has been in cultivation for many years, it is nevertheless practically unknown to the vast majority of flower-gardeners. It is hard to account for the neglect of this strangely beautiful plant; certainly nothing could be more



The curious and beautiful Sedum (see page 31)

easily grown. A good many years ago I heard these Peonies called "Pheasant's Eyes," and I suggest this name as being most appropriate, besides being much easier to handle than the botanical one. Anyone who has seen a Reeves pheasant will remember its curious eye—bright red and yellow, contrasting strangely with its glossy green plumage. And the *Pæonia tenuifolia* repeats this unusual color-scheme in its single cup-shaped flower of intense deep crimson, with a cluster of yellow stamens in the center. As a setting for this brilliant blossom is a mass of the most exquisite plummy foliage imaginable, so finely divided that it seems like slender filaments rather than leaves. It clothes the flower-stem from the tip to the base, hiding it completely from sight. A clump of these plants in the garden or a bowl of the blooms in the house are equally unique and lovely. They are, of course, more effective in good-sized masses. Should be given full sun. There is a double form but it is far less attractive than the single. Space 15 in.; height the same. 30 cts.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS OF PEONIES

The collections below include varieties of every distinct shade, and should be especially valuable for those who find it difficult to make a selection from a long list.

Collection No. 1, \$4

Ten beautiful Peonies of moderate price, all distinct.

Festiva maxima	\$0 50
Couronne d'Or	75
Edulis superba	35
Alexandre Dumas	50
Humea carnea	35
Faust	35
Duchesse de Nemours	50
Anemoneflora rubra	50
Delachei	50
Jeanne d'Arc	50

\$4 80

Collection No. 2, \$7.50

Ten of the choicest Peonies on my list.

Albatre	\$1 75
Marie Jacquin	75
Modeste Guerin	75
Mme. Ducl	75
Eugenie Verdier	1 00
Asa Gray	1 00
Solfaterre	75
Mme. de Vetry	65
Felix Crousse	75
Rubra superba	75

\$8 90

COLLECTIONS NOS. 1 AND 2 TOGETHER, \$10

Instead of quoting dozen and hundred rates, I allow the following discounts on Peony orders, which apply to everything except the collections above. Orders amounting to \$10, 5 per cent off; orders amounting to \$25, 10 per cent off; orders amounting to \$50 and upward, 15 per cent off.



Fleecy masses of Thalictrum (see page 37)

Physostegia · False Dragonhead

Virginica. Tall-growing perennials with delicately colored flowers are by no means numerous in midsummer; therefore, the *Physostegia* fills a valuable place in our flower-gardening calendar, all the more valuable in that it is a plant of almost weed-like robustness of growth. The close-ranked stems grow stiffly erect to a height of 3 to 4 feet, holding up compact tapering flower-spikes 6 inches long. In size and arrangement the flowers are very like snapdragons, but in shape they more strongly suggest foxgloves. The color is a charming shade of pale, clear lilac-pink, of a tone similar to the phlox, Mme. Paul Dutrie. Apparently the False Dragonhead shares the gardeners' conviction that it looks best in masses, for if not kept within bounds, the numberless creeping rootstocks will overrun everything in their vicinity. Hence the desirability of an annual lifting or thinning out. Excellent for cutting and fine for naturalizing or massing in the garden as a background for the softer-colored phloxes. July. Space 1 ft.

Romneya

Tree or Matilija Poppy

Coulteri. When I first saw the incomparable Matilija Poppy (pronounced "Matilla-hah") growing wild in its native California, the plant was a complete novelty to me. Later on I noticed in the new edition of Robinson's "English Flower Garden" that it had been known and prized in England for some time, but it is only beginning to be heard of here in the eastern states. Perhaps this is due partly to the fact that the *Romneya* is not one of the hardiest of perennials, though with protection about equal to that given tea roses it will generally winter over quite well. But whatever trouble it may give in this way, is not too great, considering the exquisite beauty of its flowers.

The plant is of a sub-shrubby nature, dying back in the winter, but sending out many new shoots the next summer to a height of 4 or 5 feet. The flowers are borne on the tips and occasionally on the laterals of these shoots, and are very large—6 inches across,—shaped like an Oriental Poppy, but opening flat. The petals are exquisitely waved and crinkled, of

the sheerest and most delicate texture, and the purity of their white is wonderfully set off by the big feathery mass of yellow stamens in the center. They have a sweet, magnolia-like odor, and last unusually long in water. The foliage is very luxuriant, glaucous and deeply cut, and unlike the true Poppy, clothes the whole length of the flower-stem. Thrives best if given a southern exposure, with shelter to the north, plenty of sun, a well-drained soil, and heavy winter protection. Space 2 ft. 50 cts.

Salvia · Sage

To most of us the name *Salvia* inevitably brings to mind the ubiquitous Scarlet Sage;—it would almost seem as if that useful if rather garish flower has been the means of keeping in the background the more delicately beautiful perennial sorts. At any rate they certainly have not received the recognition they so richly deserve. *Azurea* and *Pitcheri* especially are practically the only and undoubtedly the best blue flowers of their season, and the other varieties have many good qualities. The blossoms of all *Salvias* are slight variations of one curious two-petaled form; the upper petal is small, narrow and beak-shaped, the lower one broad and flat, like a pendent lip. The leaves are strongly aromatic. All are of hardy, free growth in any sunny position.

Azurea grandiflora (Rocky Mountain Sage). This, together with the following variety, is probably the most beautiful of the Sages. In rich soil it will send up many vigorous stems 5 feet tall, well clothed with narrow, drooping, gray-green leaves. The flowers open thickly in terminal spikes, and are of a lovely soft pale blue, that gives a beautiful effect in masses. It combines charmingly with cream and flesh shades in gladioli, or with *Boltonia asteroides* and *B. latisquama*. Both *Azurea* and *Pitcheri* should be pinched back at least twice during the summer to induce a more bushy growth. Late August and September. Space 18 in.

Pitcheri. Blooms about two weeks later than *Azurea*, and is identical except in color, which is a deep, rich blue of very beautiful tone. The relation between the respective shades of *Pitcheri* and *Azurea* is exactly that between *Anchora Italica*, *Dropmore*, and *A.*, *Opal*. A splendid plant.

Salvia, {continued}

Uliginosa. This variety was introduced last year with a great flourish of trumpets, but to me at least it proved something of a disappointment. It is a very robust, gracefully branching grower between 4 and 6 feet tall, with long flower-spikes, raised well above the foliage, and it is a wonderfully profuse bloomer, from July until frost. The individual flowers, however, are comparatively small—hardly half the size of *Azurea*, and though of a very pretty sky-blue with white markings, not enough are open at one time to make a very showy garden effect. Probably the plant will be found most useful for naturalizing in large masses, particularly as it spreads rapidly by sending out innumerable underground stems. Space 2 ft. 25 cts.

Greigi. This species, also introduced last year, is a very distinctive plant. Though in reality a little shrub, it never grows higher than 2½ feet, and, like the new *Buddleias*, a small plant set out in the spring will attain full size the first summer. It is a neat and compact grower, with small rounded leaves, strongly scented, and slender spikes of flowers of the most unique and delightful color—deep cerise, a shade possessed by no other perennial with the possible exception of the phlox, Sigrid Arnoldson. The plant blooms more or less continuously all summer, being at its best in early September, though at no time is the amount of bloom great enough to make a notably showy effect. Delightful in small separate beds, and most unusual and effective planted in front of *Salvia azurea*. A native of Texas, it can stand considerable heat and drought. Should have full sun and good winter protection. 25 cts.

Rudbeckia · Giant Cone-Flower

Purpurea. An unusually striking flower; daisy-shaped, with a very large rusty red cone-shaped center, curiously dry and stiff. From this, the long, purplish red petals hang as if smoothed down by an invisible hand. The plant stands stiffly erect, 3 feet high, and a small group of them in the border has an extremely decorative effect. From July to September the flowers make a brave showing, with no sign of flagging or changing color. Space 18 in.

Sedum · Japanese Stonecrop

Spectabile. "The English Flower Garden" says of this plant: "Most distinctive and beautiful; erect, with broad, glaucous leaves. Its rosy purple flowers appear in dense, broad corymbs, about the end of August, and remain in perfection for two months. The glaucous foliage, even before the flowers come, is a pleasant relief to any high-colored plant that may be near it. It withstands extreme cold, heat, drought or wet, and, unlike most plants, will grow and flower to perfection in shaded places, thriving in any soil." 18 in.; space 1 ft.

Thermopsis

Caroliniana. This beautiful and little-known plant is another of our native wild flowers. It is nearly related to the lupines, though taller and more slender in habit. The long spikes of pea-shaped flowers are a soft lemon-yellow that combines perfectly with the blues of the delphiniums, which bloom at the same time. Mrs. Frances King has told of the splendidly decorative effect of the *Thermopsis* when planted in the formal garden. Equally good for naturalizing, growing best in rich, moist soil. Late June and July. 3 to 5 ft.; space 1 ft. 25 cts.

*Trollius* (see page 38)**Thalictrum · Meadow Rue**

Thalictrums all have in common a charming refinement and delicacy of foliage, finely divided and symmetrical, in form midway between the columbine and the maidenhair fern. It spreads out in wide fronds near the ground, diminishing in size as it rises up the tall, smooth flower-stem, which carries a large, finely branched head of tiny, feathery flowers. Grouped in the border, *Thalictrums* lighten things up surprisingly, and form a beautiful setting for any delicately colored plant.

Cornuti. Early in the spring one sees the fresh green fronds of this Meadow Rue springing up along the banks of streams and in moist places among rocks. By July it will have attained its full growth and begun opening its huge clusters of fleecy white, fragrant bloom. It is seen at its best in a situation where it can get a constant supply of water and still have good drainage, but it will thrive in the border in any good, mellow soil in open sun or partial shade. In the woods near my nursery there are giant *Thalictrums* 10 feet high, marvels of stately beauty and grace. On an average, however, the plants only reach a height of from 3 to 5 feet. One of the loveliest pictures imaginable is to be seen in our July woods and meadows, when foamy masses of *Thalictrum* grow side by side with tall colonies of vivid orange-red *Lilium Canadense*. And such chance natural effects could be reproduced with very little difficulty. July and early August. Space 18 in.

Dipterocarpum. Much-heralded novelties frequently fail to live up to their claims, but in the case of this new *Thalictrum* from the Far East, I feel no hesitation in saying that it is one of the most

Thalictrum, continued

unique and charming plants ever introduced. Unlike most of the other varieties, its flowers grow in long, upright sprays, rounded, and tapering to a tip of undeveloped buds. The individual flowers, only a half-inch across, hang suspended on the ends of stiff, yet thread-like stems, their delicate lavender petals reflexed to show the fluff of pale yellow stamens below. The tiny buds, lavender too, and perfectly globular, look like a shower of tinted water-drops. It is impossible to convey the effect of exquisite delicacy and airiness given by the whole plant. It is a strong grower, and blooms in July and August. Should be given full sun and a very well-drained soil. 4 to 5 ft.; space 18 in.

Trollius · Globe Flower

In form and habit, Globe Flowers very closely resemble double buttercups, although the leaves are smoother, the stems thicker and more succulent, and the flowers of a different texture. They are most attractive and beautiful plants, and invaluable for the earliness of their bloom. Though they are usually described as blossoming in May, and occasionally in October, I have found that if kept well supplied with moisture, and the old flowers kept cut, at least two additional crops can be expected. Their one requirement is a loose, mellow soil,—in dry, baked ground little can be expected of them. They thrive in moist ground and in partial shade, looking charming in a setting of cool green ferns, and in the mixed border they are very effective, especially massed in front of *Anchusa*, *Opal*. Do not divide for a number of years as they bloom much better after becoming well established. 12 to 18 in.; space 1 ft.

Europæus superbus. Soft, clear lemon-yellow; flowers large and globular. 25 cts.

Asiaticus flore-croceo. Rich deep orange, the purest orange to be found among hardy plants. The petals are of a beautiful translucent, luminous quality that keeps from the flower any suggestion of garishness and allows it to be placed near delicate colors much more readily than a cruder yellow. The flowers are a trifle smaller than those of *Europæus*, and open more widely. Both sorts last unusually long in water, but the stems must not be long exposed to the air after being cut. 25 cts.

Verbascum · Mullein

The average American flower-gardener would no doubt be rather horrified at the idea of planting Mullein in his garden. Mullein—a common, rank-growing weed! To be sure our familiar wild Mullein (*Verbascum Thapsus*) does not offer many possibilities in the line of garden adornment, yet even it is by no means unhandsome in appropriate surroundings, and there are many other Mulleins that are very noble and imposing plants. They have long been prized in England; indeed they are considered almost indispensable there, not only for planting in large borders but still more for placing in scattered groups along paths, in the shrubby border, and in bold colonies along the edges of woods. I do not see why the *Verbascums* should not become popular in America also; one thing at least should recommend them to us—they will thrive in the poorest soil. All the varieties have rosettes of huge, velvety, grayish green leaves, from which rise massive towering flower-spikes, branched like candelabra. The flowers open best in early morning, or on cloudy days.

Verbascum, continued

Vernale. A Mullein of commanding habit. The flowers are lemon-yellow, with a small tuft of purple filaments in the center, and are produced on giant pyramids 6 feet high. July to September. Space 3 ft. 35 cts.

Densiflorum. A rather shorter and more compact grower. The leaves are crimped at the edges, and the flowers are bronzy yellow, with dark centers, almost an inch across. July to September. 25 cts.

Miss Willmott. This new hybrid is probably the most satisfactory *Verbascum* for the border. It grows from 4 to 6 feet tall, with very long spikes closely set with fragrant, widely open flowers over an inch across; pure white, with orange centers. A fine and very distinct plant that should rank with the very best of tall-growing white flowers. It has the disadvantage of being strictly a biennial, but new plants often spring up from self-sown seed. June to August. Space 2½ ft. 25 cts.

Veronica · Speedwell

A very large family, comprising an almost endless number of species of all sizes and types of growth, most of them however being better adapted for milder climates than ours. The two varieties I offer are perfectly hardy and rank with the finest of our border plants. They thrive best in full sun. *V. longifolia subsessilis* sometimes suffers from prolonged drought, so the soil about it should be kept well stirred or mulched with well-rotted manure or lawn-clippings.

Amethystina. I am rather at a loss to know why this very beautiful *Veronica* is usually dismissed with a few words of faint praise and the altogether incorrect statement that it blooms in July. As a matter of fact it blooms in May, and at its season there are few finer low-growing plants in the garden; certainly none of its color. Two-year-old plants will send up innumerable leafy flower-stems, all of one height and so close together that they form a solid mound of green, which later is completely covered with rich violet-blue flowers. These flowers are borne in small spikes which open out slowly to the very tip, lasting in bloom a long time. For massing along the edge of the border, it is ideal. 12 to 15 in.; space 1 ft. 25 cts.

Longifolia subsessilis. As a companion to *Amethystina* in May we have *Subsessilis* in August; an even more valuable plant, and one that is happily becoming very well known. It generally happens that this *Veronica* blooms just as the delphiniums have completed their first blossoming period, so, even if it were less desirable in other ways, it would have the merit of keeping up the succession of blue flowers. It is not, however, a true blue, but rather a deep violet-blue. The plant is of excellent branching habit, 3 feet tall, with thick, deep green leaves. The flowers are borne in dense spikes, rounded and tapering, which gradually lengthen out as the blossoms open. If the old spikes are kept cut, it will bloom for over two months. Appreciates a rich, mellow soil. Space 15 in. Divide every four years. Very effective with white phlox.

Vinca · Periwinkle; Myrtle

Minor. By far the most useful creeping plant we have. As an evergreen ground-cover nothing can approach it; it will grow and thrive in bright sun or deepest shade, in wet soil or in dry, and always look fresh and attractive, both summer and winter. The

Vinca, continued

leaves are small, oval and of a smooth, leathery texture. The flowers which appear in quantities in April and May, are about an inch across, flat, with five square-edged petals of a delicate lavender-blue. The Periwinkle has always been a familiar feature of cemeteries and is used to some extent for edging beds of shrubbery and evergreens and carpeting spaces of bare shady ground, but I am convinced that its highest source of value has hardly been touched. I mean its use in connection with spring-flowering bulbs. It is always something of a problem to know how to treat bulbs on a small piece of ground where they cannot be naturalized freely in masses. The hardy border can satisfactorily accommodate only a limited number, while everyone knows how inconvenient they are planted in the lawn, and everyone (I hope) is beginning to realize how very ugly they are planted in round, solid beds. But if a good-sized space about a group of trees or shrubs were carpeted with Periwinkle and the bulbs planted there, they could send up their blooms through the leafy setting and finish their growth undisturbed, while the Periwinkle, without aid of mower or sprinkler, would keep its expanse of green fresh and neat the year round. In this way charming spring gardens could be made in the space of a few square yards, or the plan could be elaborated to any extent. Almost any sort of Holland bulbs would thrive, from crocuses and scillas to tall Darwin tulips; but perhaps narcissi or daffodils would be the most permanent and satisfactory, and they would also have the merit of contrasting well with the vinca blossoms. It would be best to have the ground well dug and fertilized and Vincas and bulbs planted at the same time; for when the Vinca has started to spread it would be a rather hard-matter to plant anything else, as it roots from every joint. These roots are shallow, however, and in no way interfere with the bulbs below them. Plants set 1 foot apart will quickly form a solid mass.

Yucca**Spanish Bayonet; Adam's Needle**

Filamentosa. Here is a native American plant that has been appreciated at something like its real worth. From the arid regions of New Mexico and Arizona where the Yucca had its original home, it has spread over practically the whole flower-garden world.

No one can mistake the Yucca; it has a form totally unlike any other plant. It is simply a huge, rounded cluster of long glaucous, evergreen leaves, narrow, and sword-like, ending in needle-pointed spines. From this, in early summer, arises a stout flower-stem, 4 to 6 feet tall that by July has developed an enormous oval cluster of bell-shaped flowers, creamy white, faintly tinged green, 2 inches across.

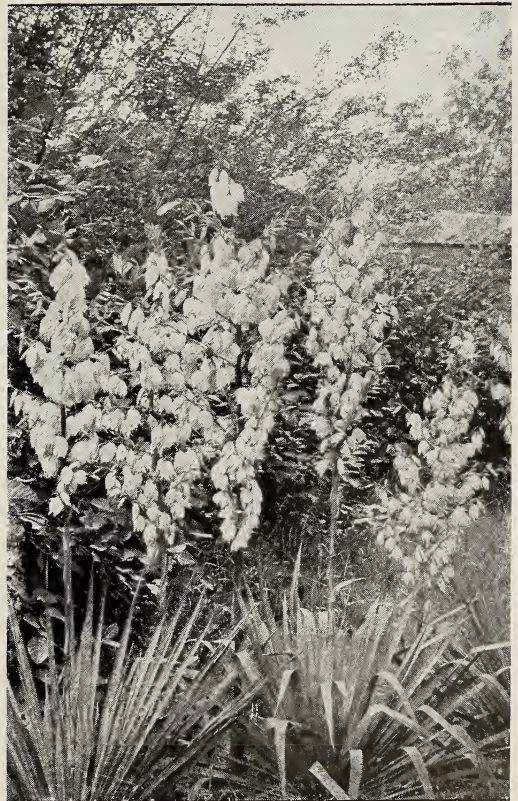
Few persons know that the Yucca is fragrant, for the very good reason that there is no scent present in the daytime. In that delightful book, "Old Time Gardens," Mrs. Florence Morse Earle mentions this characteristic in the following passage: "The tall columns of the Yucca or Adam's Needle stand like shafts of marble against the hedge trees. In the daytime the Yucca's blossoms hang in scentless greenish white bells, but at night these bells lift

Yucca, continued

up their heads and expand with great stars of light and odor,—a glorious plant. Around their spire of luminous bells circle pale night moths, lured by their fragrance. Even by moonlight we can see the little white detached fibers at the edges of the leaves, which we are told the Mexican women used as thread to sew with When I see the Yucca in bloom I fully believe that it is the grandest flower of our gardens." The fragrance of the Yucca is much like that of the wild pond-lily.

Aside from their usual use as specimens on the lawn, Yuccas are wonderfully effective isolated in groups against a background of evergreens or dense shrubbery, or planted among boulders, or climbing in scattered ranks up steep slopes, where they will thrive with little moisture, being children of the desert. And they are invaluable for grouping at the entrance to flower-gardens, or at the beginning or end of broad walks and borders. As Miss Jekyll says, "No plant makes a handsomer 'full stop' in any flower garden."

One of the most curious chapters in natural history is the story of the interdependence between the Yucca and the little gray moth that fertilizes the blossoms. The Yucca can mature no seed without the help of the moth, nor can the moth find any food for its young except in the developing seed-pods of the Yucca. Yuccas are best planted in the spring. Space 3 ft. 25 cts. each, \$2.50 per doz., \$15 per 100.



Spires of Yucca loaded with waxy white bells

Unless otherwise noted, all plants in this catalog, 15 cts. each, \$1.50 per doz., \$10 per 100
Six plants sold at the dozen rate. All plants listed at 25 cts. each are \$2.50 per doz., \$15 per 100

Read Before Ordering

FORWARDING. As a rule, express rates are cheaper than parcel-post rates, as can be seen by the tables below, which cover both parcel-post and express rates to all parts of the country. Therefore, unless otherwise instructed, I will forward all plants by express. If customers wish them sent by mail they should send a sufficient sum to cover postage. Anything over the required amount will be promptly returned.

PRICES. All prices are strictly net.

TERMS. Customers wishing to open an account should send references from other nurserymen; otherwise terms are cash.

REMITTANCES should be made by post-office or express money order, registered letter or check. Stamps may be sent for amounts under \$1.

GUARANTEE. I make every effort to send out my plants true to name, but, if through error on my part any plant should prove untrue, I will replace it free of charge. I do not in any way guarantee the success of the grower purchasing stock offered in this catalog.

Parcel Post Rates from West Chester, Pa.

	Zone	5 lbs.	10 lbs.	20 lbs.
Atlanta, Ga.....	4	\$0 23	\$0 43	\$0 83
Boston, Mass.....	3	14	24	44
Buffalo, N. Y.....	3	14	24	44
Burlington, Vt.....	4	23	43	83
Chicago, Ill.....	5	32	62	1 22
Cleveland, Ohio.....	4	23	43	83
Denver, Colo.....	7	51	1 01	2 01
Galveston, Texas.....	6	41	81	1 61
Helena, Mont.....	8	60	1 20	2 40
Jacksonville, Fla.....	5	32	62	1 22
Louisville, Ky.....	4	23	43	83
Los Angeles, Calif.....	8	60	1 20	2 40
Minneapolis, Minn.....	5	32	62	1 22
Nashville, Tenn.....	5	32	62	1 22
New Orleans, La.....	6	41	81	1 61
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	3	14	24	44
Portland, Ore.....	8	60	1 20	2 40
Richmond, Va.....	2	9	14	24
San Francisco, Calif.....	8	60	1 20	2 40
Seattle, Wash.....	8	60	1 20	2 40
St. Louis, Mo.....	5	32	62	1 22

Express Rates from West Chester, Pa.

	5 lbs.	10 lbs.	20 lbs.	25 lbs.	50 lbs.
Atlanta, Ga.....	\$0 39	\$0 39	\$0 60	\$0 71	\$1 22
Boston, Mass.....	27	27	36	41	62
Buffalo, N. Y.....	29	29	39	45	69
Burlington, Vt.....	29	29	39	45	69
Chicago, Ill.....	34	34	50	57	96
Cleveland, Ohio.....	30	30	41	46	73
Denver, Colo.....	51	59	99	1 18	2 18
Galveston, Texas.....	50	57	95	1 14	2 08
Helena, Mont.....	63	75	1 32	1 61	3 02
Jacksonville, Fla.....	40	42	64	75	1 32
Louisville, Ky.....	34	34	49	57	94
Los Angeles, Calif.....	71	89	1 59	1 93	3 62
Minneapolis, Minn.....	42	44	69	82	1 45
Nashville, Tenn.....	37	37	55	64	1 02
New Orleans, La.....	45	48	78	93	1 68
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	27	27	36	41	69
Portland, Ore.....	73	91	1 63	1 99	3 77
Richmond, Va.....	27	27	34	38	54
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Seattle, Wash.....	72	90	1 60	1 95	3 77
St. Louis, Mo.....	36	36	54	62	1 09

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Plants for Shady Places

The following varieties will not merely keep alive, but will grow and bloom at their best with no direct sunlight.

AQUILEGIA
DICENTRA
DIGITALIS

FUNKIA
VINCA

Those below can endure partial shade without being any the worse for it:

ALYSSUM
ACONITUM
ANEMONE
VERBASCUM
YUCCA

ASTERS
HEMEROCALLIS
MONARDA
DORONICUM

TWIN-LARCHES NURSERY

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